



Which self help centre welcomed these medical students? See page 4.

# Bridgend & Porthcawl

# GEM



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'WE WILL REMEMBER THEM' • THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, 2010

## Council are at war with church over Remembrance day service

AN unholy row between church leaders and councillors in Kenfig Hill is casting a shadow over this weekend's Remembrance Sunday service.

As a result of the rift, for the first time in 50 years, the service at the war memorial will not be conducted by clergy.

The congregation of St Theodore's Church will remain in the building, instead of parading down the hill to the memorial in time for

**REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC**

the two-minute silence at 11am. This will now be observed in church.

But Pyle Community Council and the Royal British Legion are organising their own ceremony at the cenotaph starting at 10.45am. This will include the usual elements like the Last Post, the two-minute silence and Reveille.

The row has caused an ugly split in the community, which could blight the arrival of the

new vicar later this month.

As Kenfig Hill has no vicar of its own at the moment, Canon Colin Amos, Dean of Margam, was asked to provide a stand-in to conduct the Remembrance Sunday service.

He asked Canon Richard Hanford to conduct proceedings and the Canon had a meeting with Coun Paula James, chairman of the community council, who agreed the structure of the service with him.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

## 'LOOK AT US... WE'RE IN THE PINK!'



Find out why these youngsters were wearing their best pink outfits at a recent coffee morning in Porthcawl on page 5.

## Former coach is cleared of all abuse allegations

**REPORT by AJ SICLUNA**

A jury at Cardiff Crown Court took less than an hour to clear a former boxing coach of allegations that he had sexually abused a youngster he had been training.

Mr Peter Smith (44) of Pyle, was unanimously found not guilty of two charges of sexual assault, not guilty on three charges of indecent assault, and not guilty of indecency with a child.

Mr Smith denied all the allegations, told the jury that they were untrue, and that he could not find any reason for the alleged vic-

tim to have told lies about him.

The court heard that the alleged victim, now an adult, had had behavioural problems and had been referred to anger management counselling.

Prosecutor Timothy Evans said that Mr Smith, who was known as Mick, had some years ago been a box-

ing coach at Porthcawl Amateur Boxing Club.

Last September, the alleged victim went to the police and made claims about what Mr Smith had done to him when younger, when he was teaching him to box.

The witness was interviewed on video, and the allegations of indecency were made.

## Aberkenfig Remembrance

THERE will be a Remembrance Day service at the new Aberkenfig War Memorial in the Square at 10.45am, with a two-minute silence at 11am on Sunday, November 14. The congregation will then walk up the hill to continue the service in St John's church.

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Constituency Office 01656 737777

JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmere  
Constituency Office 01656 860034

CARWYN JONES AM for Bridgend  
Constituency Office 01656 664320

BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau, 26  
Dunraven Place, Bridgend 01656 654951

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## Readers' Letters

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BRIDGEND MP HITS BACK  
'Half truths over the  
Government cuts'

**W**ITH reference to the letter from Mr Alun Cairns, MP for the Vale, on page 2 last week, the ConDem political world of smoke and mirrors hides reality behind half truths.

He promised to resign from the Welsh Assembly, he promised not to cut child benefit, he promised St Athan was safe in his hands, and now wants to deny what Carwyn Jones AM has called the worst settlement for Wales since devolution - with the Assembly losing £1.8 billion over the next four years.

He claims Wales had a fair deal because there were 19 per cent cuts across the UK, compared to the 20 per cent planned by Labour.

*Rule one in Westminster:* check your facts against independent

sources, not party hand-outs. The Institute of Fiscal Studies noted that George Osborne (accidentally, I am sure)

failed to take account of £6 billion of cuts in May, making Labour's cuts 16 per cent.

As for the actual cuts being made by the ConDems, Scope Cymru has said disabled people in Wales could lose £262 million in benefits over the next five years.

Plaid's economic advisor claims £963 million will come out of the Welsh economy each year because of the cuts. The BBC estimate 34,000 public sector jobs will be lost.

Alun says I must apologise for Labour leading the world through the economic crisis caused by his friends the bankers, the ones who helped fund his party's election campaign.

The Tories did not want to rescue Northern Rock, which would have led to the collapse of the

British financial markets. I must also apologise, he claims, for Labour protecting people's savings in the banks.

The Tories are attacking the poor, the disabled and those who cannot find work, thanks to their cuts in public spending.

One minute a teaching assistant, next minute a work-shy benefit scrounger unable to feed their children or get help to pay their rent or mortgage.

David Blunkett would welcome the higher levels of Barnett formulae

paid in Wales per head of population, because it is higher than the rate paid in England.

This is due to our higher levels of poverty and long term illness.

So, as the queues grow outside your surgeries over the coming months, Alun can explain to those who lose their jobs, benefits and homes how Conservatives sat on the green benches and cheered when the cuts were announced.

Madeleine Moon, MP for Bridgend  
House of Commons

Calling Wyn  
and Eirlys!

**I** ENJOY reading the readers' letters page every week in your GEM newspaper and wonder if I can use it to make contact with friends I have lost touch with - Eirlys and Wyn Davies.

I really enjoyed our times together in Cardiff and especially their wedding in Machynlleth in February 1973.

I met a couple recently in a restaurant, and after chatting for a while, it turned out that the husband used to work with Wyn in Cardiff.

He then informed me that they both live in Barry. I would love to meet up again to have a long chat.

I now live in Bridgend and my mobile number is 07968 669052.

Jose Mundy,

Can you provide  
a loving home?

**T**HANK you to everyone in your area who has enquired about adoption, as part of National Adoption Week.

The focus for this year's campaign was 'every child deserves a family' which was supported by a new grassroots initiative called 'Adoption Champions'.

This scheme enabled people who had an experience of adoption to come forward, and share their story, to raise awareness and encourage prospective adopters to come forward.

Although the campaign is now over, I urge those who are considering whether adoption is for them to think about providing a loving home for a sibling group, a child with disabilities or an older child, many of whom will have known disproportionate sadness in their short lives.

For more information please visit [www.nationaladoptionweek.org.uk](http://www.nationaladoptionweek.org.uk)

Gwenda Thomas AC/AM  
Deputy Minister for Social Services

Justice demands  
that UK banks are  
taxed more heavily

**I** KNOW we are in difficult economic times, but there is one easy decision that could spare a lot of the tough ones.

A tax on the banks (just 0.05 per cent) could raise £20 billion in the UK to help those hit by the financial crises in this country and around the world.

For every cut I hear the Government announce I keep asking: Could a tax on the banks have paid for that?

Yes, that's right, a tiny tax on the financial sector could generate £20 billion annually in the UK alone. That's enough to protect schools and hospitals. Enough to stop massive cuts across the public

sector. Enough to save lives in the poorest nations and to help deal with climate change.

So far, the UK banking bail-out has cost £1.5 trillion or £31,250 for each and every taxpayer in the country. Yet the banks are once again announcing record profits and bonuses for themselves!

It's time for justice for ordinary families and businesses - for the one in five British families faced with a choice between buying food or paying for the heating bill; for the 200 million people around the world forced into poverty by a financial crisis they did absolutely nothing to bring about.

Rob Curtis,  
Barry.

## Iceland adventure!

**I** FOUND the GEM article concerning the Porthcawl students' visit to Iceland most interesting - mainly because I lived and worked in Iceland for 14 years as a music teacher, and organist/choirmaster in Bolungarvik, Budardalur and Skagastrom.

During my time there, I made many friends and will be returning for Christmas this year.

Even after all these years I find the countryside really beautiful and the people are wonderful.

I hope there will be more visits to Iceland by students from the Bridgend area. What an experience for them!

Mike Jones, Bridgend.

## Bus service plea

**I** have discovered that from November 22, the First Cymru bus service 224 will no longer operate to and from Porthcawl.

Instead, the service will operate between Swansea and Margam only, via Baglan and Port Talbot, reverting back to the original timetable only during the summer months.

As a local councillor, I know this will be devastating news to everyone in Porthcawl who uses public transport. A similar proposal for Maesteg was withdrawn due to a public outcry, so I would urge any concerned resident to make the managing director of First Cymru fully aware of the strength of feeling.

It seems ludicrous to take away such a valued service.

Coun Alana Davies,  
Porthcawl

Greens choose  
their candidates

**THE** Green Party has chosen its candidates for the South Wales West regional list for the Assembly elections in 2011.

A spokesman said: "Two of the four candidates are from Bridgend Green Party which, considering South Wales West covers seven parliamentary constituencies, is indicative of the resurgent fortunes of Bridgend Green Party."

Andy Chyba has been prominent in re-establishing the Green Party in Bridgend and is one of the candidates. He describes himself as a 'libertarian leftie' who was drawn to the party by the realisation that social justice and environmental

issues are inextricably linked.

He currently teaches literacy and numeracy skills to the long-term unemployed.

Delyth Miller is the other Bridgend Green on the list of candidates. Delyth is a single mum with two children, living in Bettws.

The education system failed her badly, but she is now making up for lost time by 'going back to school' and realising that the more you put into life, the more you get back. She is a Samaritans volunteer and an adult training centre volunteer, alongside being a secondary school governor and a part-time student.

HIGH TIDE TIMES  
(UNTIL NOVEMBER 18)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

| DATE    | Time AM | Ht M | Time PM | Ht M |
|---------|---------|------|---------|------|
| 11 Thur | 09.20   | 8.9  | 21.39   | 8.5  |
| 12 Fri  | 10.06   | 8.4  | 22.27   | 8.0  |
| 13 Sat  | 11.01   | 8.0  | 23.23   | 7.6  |
| 14 Sun  | 11.59   | 7.7  |         |      |
| 15 Mon  | 00.41   | 7.4  | 13.13   | 7.6  |
| 16 Tues | 01.52   | 7.5  | 14.21   | 7.8  |
| 17 Wed  | 03.01   | 7.9  | 15.22   | 8.2  |
| 18 Thur | 03.49   | 8.3  | 16.07   | 8.7  |

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

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# Language centre opens at Maesteg's new library

A NEW centre of excellence for Welsh language material for the whole county borough has just been opened in Maesteg.

BCBC has transformed the first floor of Maesteg Sports Centre into a new reference library which contains all the material relating to Welsh and also all the music scores which were previously either in the county's book store or the central reference library.

The new library, called Y Llynfi, also has material relating to family history and local history for the valley. A state of the art computer suite is also available to users.

The library extends at first floor level into the old blast engine house section of the building which forms the foyer to the sports centre.

This magnificent stone building was constructed in 1839 as part of the old Maesteg iron works.

The balcony area, which used to house snooker tables, is now part of the library and a first floor walkway has been provided which extends out both sides of the balcony and runs the full length of the building and across the front.

This structure stands on steel supports, echoing the building's industrial past.

The walls are of original stone blocks and the foyer soars to the pitched roof which has been lined with pine.

The original conversion of the blast engine house was carried out by the former Ogwr Borough Council in 1983, when the sports centre was first created, but this new work gives the first floor of the building a new use.

The opening ceremony was carried out by Alun Ffired Jones AM, the Welsh Assembly Government's minister for heritage.

He was "hugely impressed" with the building and said it was a wonderful example of how an old industrial building can be brought into beneficial use for the community of today.

The ceremony had a very Welsh flavour, reflecting the fact that it was marking the opening up of a Welsh language archive.

Pupils from Ysgol Gymraeg Cynwyd Sant, accompanied by head Tegwen Ellis, entertained the assembled guests with a very lively recitation and Cor

by JAYNE ISAAC

Merched Cwm Llynfi, the Maesteg Ladies Choir, sang a very varied repertoire which also had a suitably Welsh flavour. They were conducted by musical director Paul Deenik Bradley and were accompanied by Huw Morgan.

They were joined by chorister Margaret Griffiths, who is also the principal officer for libraries in the county borough and oversaw this development.

She is also deputy musical director of the choir and swiftly stripped off her black jacket to reveal the choir's turquoise top she was wearing underneath.

The minister was welcomed by a song which is the unofficial anthem of the Llynfi Valley – the folk song 'Bugeilo'r Gwenthi Gwyn' which was composed by the Llangynwyd bard Wil Hopcyn.

Also present were pupils from the borough's new Welsh medium Comprehensive school – Ysgol Gyfun Llangynwyd – accompanied by their head Mark Jones.

Everyone was welcomed to Maesteg by borough mayor Colin Teesdale, who is a valley councillor and he pointed out that his own children had attended the Welsh school. He proposed the vote of thanks to Mr Alun Ffired Jones.

Town deputy mayor Gareth Howells was also present along with other councillors.

Cabinet member Lyn Morgan, who is in charge of Wellbeing, said that the new library offered the people of the Llynfi valley easy access to services that they would previously have had to travel into Bridgend to access.

He added: "It is entirely fitting that Y Llynfi is housed in an historic building which was once the blast engine house of the old Maesteg Iron Works.

"This building was known for many years as The Cornstores because, after the iron works closed, it was used to store the feed stuffs for the hundreds of pit ponies working in the mines in the valley."

Facilities available at the library include local and family history books, an extensive music library, historical maps of the area, a study lounge, daily and weekly newspapers, free internet access and other

ICT facilities like word processing, e-mail, scanners, printers and down-loading.

It also houses the county's extensive collection of Welsh language material.

The library was created with a £100,000 grant from the Welsh Assembly. It complements the town's main library in the town centre.

The library is accessible to wheelchair users and the computers have special software for visually impaired users.

Coun Morgan said that the creation of this library was a testament to what could be achieved when organisations work together to improve facilities.

"This floor was underused and has been revamped to create an excellent facility for the valley. This building is a multi use facility," he added.

Mr Alun Ffired Jones thanked Cor Merched for its performance of a wonderful Welsh folk song.

He said that he was greatly impressed with this superb building: "It took my breath away when I walked in," he said. "It's a wonderful example of the creative use of an old building. This library here is one of the most innovative examples I have seen of putting an old building to new use. And I commend the Bridgend library service."

"I wish the town every success and I hope local people will use this library. They are a valuable resource and I want to thank everyone involved with this project."

Mrs Griffiths said that it had been decided to locate the Welsh language centre of excellence and the music collection in Maesteg because of the town's proud cultural traditions. "Maesteg has a strong Welsh speaking element, a very successful local history society and it is still a very musical valley with many choirs. We have played to the strengths of the valley."

## Civic lunch boosts the Mayor's charity fund



ABOVE: Left to right, standing – Mrs. Evans; Rev Alwyn Evans (mayor's chaplain); Mrs Mari Major, ; Ray Murray of GLAZE; Hopkin Joseph (guest speaker); Coun Sylvia Jones (deputy mayor, Rhonda Cynon Taff and consort Ray Shalish; W Major (Heronbridge School); Mrs S Bowen (Heronbridge School); Coun Jeff Tildesley; Ms Karyl Carter (Stroke Association Bridgend county); Doug John (Civic Charity Fund chairman). Left to right, seated – Coun Barbara Stubbs (deputy mayor of Porthcawl and consort Bill Stubbs; Mrs Gloria Teesdale and Coun Colin Teesdale.



ABOVE: The Rev Alwyn Evans (left) said Grace; and Doug John was MC.

## PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN

THE Mayor of Bridgend County Borough Council, Coun Colin Teesdale, recently held a charity civic lunch in Laleston.

The lunch, in aid of the mayor's civic charity fund, was held in the Great House, Laleston, on Friday, October 29.

The lunch was organised by Mrs Mari Major, the secretary of the fund. The charities supported by the fund this year are: the Stroke Association in Bridgend County; the GLAZE prostate cancer charity, based at the Princess of Wales Hospital; and Heronsbridge Special School, Bridgend. The guest speaker was Mr Hopkin Joseph of Watts & Morgan.

## Jail sentence for Tondy man with 210 convictions

A thief who continually stole from parked cars took part in a "one man crimewave", said Judge Stephen Hopkins at Cardiff Crown Court.

The judge jailed Lyndon Church (37) of Tondy, for two and a half years.

He had admitted six charges of theft, one of going equipped for theft, possessing amphetamine and valium, and attempted burglary.

The judge said: "The courts have bent over backwards to deal with you in ways other than locking you up."

In two weeks this year, he added, Church was a one man crimewave.

Prosecutor Nicholas Gareth Jones said that in June, Church stole property worth £400 from a car in Cefn Cribwr, and left blood at the scene which was identified as his.

He also stole from cars in the Tondy area. From one of them, he took a high visibility jacket and was spotted stealing from other cars wearing it.

He was arrested

## Report by AJ SICLUNA

after attempting to burgle a house in Bryncethin.

Mr Jones said he was spotted kicking the back door of the house and he was arrested nearby.

In his car was stolen property, gloves and a torch, and on him he had amphetamine and valium.

The court heard he had 210 previous convictions, including 11

for burglary plus thefts from cars, possessing drugs, taking vehicles without consent and driving while disqualified.

Owen Williams, representing him, said that in May he suffered a significant bereavement, which had a bad effect on his emotions, causing him to take to drugs and commit offences.

"While on remand in prison he has done everything he can to better himself," he added.

## Bogus worker robs woman (81) in Maesteg

MAESTEG police are appealing for information after a man offered to carry out building work for an elderly woman resident – and then stole several hundred pounds from her.

The incident occurred on Monday, November 8, at Bryn Celyn, Maesteg at around 10.30am, when the man knocked on the door of the 81-year-old woman, offering her discounted building work.

He drove her to the Principality Building Society in Maesteg, where she withdrew the money to pay him. He then drove the woman home before leaving with the cash.

The man is described as white, around 30-35 years old, 5ft 10in tall, with short brown hair and slim build.

DS Gareth Morgan of Bridgend CID said: "This was a brazen act of deception and theft carried out on an elderly woman, and we would ask anyone who knows who this man is, or saw the elderly lady with the man in Commercial Street, Maesteg at around 11am, to contact us right away."

"The lady in question walks with a wheeled zimmer frame and someone may remember seeing the car she got out of on Commercial Street, or the man driving it, in the town at the time in question."

## Leisure facilities: Privatisation fears expressed by AM

BRIDGEND County Borough Council is being urged not to bring in a private partner to run its leisure facilities.

The cabinet has agreed to explore the options for working in partnership in the management of its swimming pools, sports centres and other leisure facilities.

But regional AM Dr Dai Lloyd has urged the council to reject the "privatisation" as an option.

Dr Lloyd, who is a Plaid Cymru AM, has written to council leader Mel Nott asking him to look at the possibility of setting up a not-for-profit trust to run these facilities instead.

Dr Lloyd said that councils like Bridgend were being put into a near-impossible position

because of public spending cuts.

He said that they would face a funding gap that had to be plugged somehow: "I understand the pressure that the council is facing and the reasoning behind the decision to look to transfer its leisure facilities. However, I am alarmed that it is looking at the potential transfer to a private company."

"The county's leisure centres and swimming pools play an integral part in the council's drive to get more of its residents leading healthier lifestyles. Direct council control is my preferred option."

"By privatising the service, and letting the market set its own prices, I fear that local communities will be disadvantaged," he stressed.

## Porthcawl's afternoon marks Christmas countdown!

PORTHCAWL Town Council has organised an afternoon of activities to mark the start of Christmas in the town on Saturday, November 27.

Although the lights will already be switched on, the Mayor Coun Mary Emmet Lewis will preside over an afternoon of events taking place in John Street.

Things get underway at the bandstand at 3.30pm and presentations will take place for the winners of the School's Poster Competition and the poetry competition run by Churches Together in Porthcawl.

There will be a procession at 4.20pm when Santa will arrive. There will then be Christmas carols from 4.30pm to 5pm led by the Bridgend Schools Wind Band.

Why not read your Bridgend & Porthcawl GEM online? Visit [www.bridgend-today.co.uk](http://www.bridgend-today.co.uk)



## Woman 'cut her own throat' in violent row - CROWN COURT IS TOLD

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

**During a violent argument with her partner, a woman cut her throat, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.**

Jaya Davies went to hospital, where 10 stitches were put into the wound.

She also had two stitches put into a lip injury caused by 27-year-old Anthony Hooper.

Hooper, of Bridgend, admitted wounding her and he was sentenced to a community order involving a year's supervision.

Judge David Wynn Morgan told him: "What you did was unforgivable, you know that. Whatever the degree of provocation, you should never have laid a hand on her, particularly as she is a vulnerable person."

"To send you into custody would be counter-productive, particularly as you are suffering from depression."

Prosecutor Matthew Cobb said the two had been partners living in Cefn Glas and he was her registered carer, receiving a weekly benefit.

Miss Davies had depression and a borderline personality disorder.

On the night of April 4 they had a row about the use of Facebook which

escalated and he began packing his belongings into a black bag.

"It then deteriorated into violence, and she became mad with temper, punched him in the face and ripped the black bags."

Mr Cobb said he had pushed her to the floor.

"She then became hysterical, took a razor from the bathroom and cut her own throat. He pushed her outside the house and she took a rock and smashed a window," said Mr Cobb.

As she continued to try to stop him leaving, there was a struggle and "he punched her squarely to the face" with enough force to cause a badly split lip.

Hooper left the house and called the police. Miss Davies was found in the garden, bloodied and distressed.

Mr Cobb said that when arrested, Hooper said he had "snapped" after she struck him.

The court heard he had a previous conviction for stealing £1,200 from his grandfather.

Defence counsel Owen Williams said: "There was one forceful punch at the end of a very volatile incident where he himself had been subjected to violence."

## LOCAL STUDENTS ARE REGULARS AT SANDVILLE



PHOTOGRAPH by KEITH E MORGAN

**ABOVE:**  
Aspiring medical students from local comprehensive schools with guest speaker Fr Irvin Hamer, past honorary chaplain, Sandville Self Help Centre and Sister Gwyneth Poacher, founder of the Sandville.

FOR the eighth successive year, aspiring medical students from local comprehensive schools have been visiting the Sandville Self Help Centre on a Wednesday evening for on-the-job experience.

The senior A-Level students, whose ages range from 15 to 18 years, are all volunteers and attend the Sandville to experience the many services provided by the centre.

A history of volunteering enhances CVs when applying for and attending interviews at medical schools and colleges.

The students also need the experience when applying for the Prince's Trust and Duke of Edinburgh Awards. For the latter awards, students are expected to reside at Sandville for a number of nights.

At Sandville, the students (there are 22 at time of writing who attend every evening during the school term), help with the various tasks and chores at the centre.

They also attend lectures given by guest speakers on a variety of subjects and aspects covering patient medicinal and nursing care.

## Margaret and Beth honoured in ceremony... Prestigious awards for two council care workers

**WELSH Care Awards have been handed to two care workers in Bridgend county borough at a glittering ceremony in Cardiff.**

Margaret Melean, manager of BCBC's Cartrefle Children Home, and social worker Beth Howell, were honoured at the ceremony in Cardiff's City Hall, hosted by BBC Wales personality Jason Mohammad and presented by Welsh Assembly Government's deputy minister for health and social services, Gwenda Thomas.

BCBC Leader, Mel



Nott said: "I am really thrilled for both Margaret and Beth. I would like to thank them for their hard work, their dedication and the significant impact their work has on the council's ability to provide high quality

services to our communities.

"As the only local authority in Wales to have received two awards on the night, this highlights our real commitment to care and shows that we have outstanding local examples of best practice which has now been showcased to the rest of the country. We can feel very proud of them."

Margaret won the gold Peter Clarke award for Promoting Excellence in Services for Children and Young People category. She works closely with young people aged 15-plus to help them move towards independent living in a supported way.

### Christmas concert

**PORHCRAWL Choral Society will be performing Night of Miracles by John W Peterson in All Saints Church, Porthcawl on Friday, December 10 at 7.30pm.**

Tickets £5 from choir members or at the door; telephone 01656 784211.

Margaret, who has worked for the council and its predecessor authority for 34 years, said: "I am delighted to receive this accolade. This is particularly special to me as it is in honour of Peter Clarke who was the first Children's Commissioner for Wales."

BCBC social worker Beth is based at Y Bwthyn Newyddin the Princess of Wales Hospital and was the first Macmillan social worker for south Wales.

She won the silver award for excellence in palliative and end of life care category for her specialist role working with people who have cancer, particularly those with specific complex palliative care needs.

Beth said: "I was surprised and thrilled to be nominated and winning the award acknowledges the value of social work within palliative care. I have received wonderful support from colleagues in BCBC social services. Y Bwthyn Newydd Specialist Palliative Care unit, and Macmillan".

## Porthcawl street trading go-ahead?

**PORHCRAWL Chamber of Trade has been told by town centre manager Rhiannon Kingsley that street trading may be permitted in future in John Street.**

At the moment, it is banned but she is investigating getting this changed so that events such as Christmas markets could be brought into the street, but the changes will not take place in time for this year.

Issues were raised at the meeting about the need for lorries to access John Street to load and unload in the morning but she said that the stalls would be taken down each night and re-erected in the mornings.

Chamber members will await further developments. Traders are also hoping to dress up for the Christmas event in the town on November 27, as it has a Victorian theme.

A full report on the meeting was given to Porthcawl Town Council by its representative Coun Jill Sweet.

JAYNE ISAAC

## Getting to grips with some festive displays

**THE December meeting of Ystradowen WI took place in the village hall on Wednesday November 3, where members had to work for their supper.**

Kathy Greene demonstrated how we could all produce an attractive Christmas table decoration.

Members had brought with them a range of items such as oasis, foliage (either fresh or artificial), candles and ribbons.

Kathy patiently guided us through the necessary steps to achieve a professional result.

### YSTRADOWEN & DISTRICT WI MEETING

She stressed the importance of making a firm base by fitting the oasis securely into the containers and to use some adhesive tape to ensure it was secure.

The candle next and was held in place by a candle holder.

The foliage was then pushed into the oasis at the base of the containers and angling it outwards and bending it to cover the top of the dish and even more importantly to keep the foliage away from the candle flame.

To add colour and

interest all sorts of things can be added to complete the effect. Wired ribbon can be used to make bows, artificial Christmas flowers or decorations, pine cones cinnamon sticks can all produce colour and interest.

Many members were able to take home a lovely table decoration in readiness for the festive season.

Kathy and her able assistant Trixie Thomas were thanked for giving us such an enjoyable and productive evening.

President Jan Foyle then chaired the business for the month.

It is the beginning of a new WI year, which meant that there was a lot to discuss. EL

## Centre rallies to Children in Need

**BRIDGEND Recreation Centre is planning activities to raise money for Children in Need.**

A 'Zumbathon' will take place in the concert hall on November 19, at 12pm; donations can be made on entry and fancy dress is optional.

"Led by fully qualified instructors this event follows in the success of Zumba classes all across the county borough and offers participants a chance to put their Latin moves to the test," a spokeswoman said.

Staff members in the crèche are dressing up as fairies with all chil-

dren invited to come in fancy dress ready for lots of games and a raffle to raise money.

A signed Bridgend Ravens' jersey has also been donated to the centre and raffle tickets will be on sale from reception, the big draw will take place on Friday evening.

The centre will also be collecting mobile phones for recycling as part of the Children in Need campaign.

For more information, contact the centre on 01656 815400 or visit [www.bridgend.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/leisure).

## LLANHARRY WI NEWS

**THE annual meeting of Llanharry WI took place at the Church Hall on November 2 when Jane Powell, WI advisor guided the officers through the agenda.**

Reports were given by the treasurer on the finances and the secretary looked back over the activities for the year.

The president, Joy Brooking, thanked all officers, committee and members for their help and support throughout the year.

Joy announced she wished to stand down as president, after holding the office for three years.

New officers were elected, with Jill Rosser taking over the role as president, Rita Butt (vice-president), Pauline Charles (secretary), Toni Farrant (minute secretary), Lil Merry (treasurer), Yvonne David (social secretary).

Six members recently attended the

council meeting at Barry to hear speakers Ruth Bond, NFWI president, and Frank Vickery, Welsh playwright. An interesting account of the day was given by Joy Brooking.

Final arrangements were given to members attending the following forthcoming events: Old Tyne Music Hall at Princess Royal Theatre, Port Talbot on November 11; Bordervale Link Group, hosted by Bont Faen WI are to meet on November 24 at Cowbridge Town Hall (script writer and author Nigel Crowle is guest speaker); November 29, Glamorgan Federation have organised a pre-Christmas shopping evening at Howells of Cardiff.

The competition, five cakes (own choice) attracted large entries and was won for the second year running by vice-president, Rita Butt!

The final get-together for 2010 will be the Christmas dinner at Llanharry Club on December 7 at 7.30pm. JR



# Porthcawl Lions' pink morning is a great success



**PORThCAWL** Lions Club members were "delighted" with the success of their recent 'Pink' coffee morning in aid of Breast Cancer Care Cymru.

The Atlantic Hotel was busy during the morning as visitors paid their entrance money and shopped at the various stalls.

The Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Mary Emmet-Lewis, with the mayoral chains contrasting with her pink ensemble, opened the event, and chatted with visitors.

After the event, the Lions were delighted to find that the morning had raised £600.

Lions spokesman David Richards said: "It was such an excellent total that the Porthcawl Lions have decided to dip into our general fund and round the donation up to £1,000."



PHOTOGRAPHS by  
**KEITH E MORGAN**



## Planners ponder scheme for 170 houses in coastal village

**VALE** planners will be deciding over the next few weeks whether or not to allow almost 170 new houses to be built in a seaside village.

Two applications are due to come before the Vale Planning Committee which would see a 40 per cent jump in the number of houses in Ogmore-by-Sea.

The first application to be considered will be one submitted 18 months ago by Bridgend County Borough Council, which relates to the Ogmore residential education centre.

BCBC closed this centre down despite the fact that private operators Kingswood, which leased it, wanted to invest their own money in the premises and carry on running courses there for children from a wide area of south Wales.

BCBC has had a development brief drawn up for the site and has lodged an application to build 84 houses on this land.

It is understood that the application has been delayed because of extensive discussions between the two councils which both employed planning consultants.

Residents are concerned about the access

to the site, which will be via Somerset View.

Coun Chris Howells, who sits on St Bride's Major Community Council which has opposed the plan, said that in 2004, the private operators of the education centre wanted to extend it and applied to use the Somerset View access.

"At that time, the highways department stated that it was unsafe and unsuitable. This road cannot be widened because it has properties on both sides and is also located on a steep hill with a sharp bend."

He had been unable to access the highway department's report on the new application but he understood that the previous objections on highway grounds have been removed.

"Planners are recommending that the scheme should be approved. There has been strong opposition from villagers with letters of objection and public meetings taking place. Public interest has died down because of the amount of time it has taken both councils to get the application before committee," he pointed out.

The application is due to come before next week's planning committee on November 18, but is likely to be deferred, because local member Audrey Preston

### REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

has said she will ask for a site visit.

Under the scheme, the old centre, known locally as Ogmore Camp, will be demolished.

The centre was set up in the 1930s to give deprived children from the valleys a week in the clean fresh air of the seaside. It was run by the old Glamorgan County Council and later became a centre where courses were run on subjects including music, drama, art and even maths.

It was taken over by Mid Glamorgan County Council in 1974 which carried on as before but when the council was disbanded in 1996, it was taken over by BCBC which set up a trust to run it initially. The trust brought in outside operators and eventually, BCBC took a decision to close it down two years ago.

Coun Howells said that people could not understand how an access deemed unsuitable and unsafe for a much smaller development six years ago is now said to be suitable to serve 84 houses, with all the increase in traffic that this will entail.

"Nothing has been done to the road and

although we do not know what conditions planners will impose, it's hard to see what can be done to improve this access."

Mr Howells said that BCBC was unwilling to use the Hazelwood access, which now serves the centre, because it is privately owned and is only available for existing uses. If new houses were built, they would have to negotiate a new right of access.

A second application has been lodged by Wig Fach Properties which owns the now disused residential caravan park adjacent to the centre.

This application is for 83 new houses, two houses to be provided by converting an old property and for the change of use of Slon Farm to a village pub.

The access to this development will be along the existing road which serves the centre which the company owns. It already has planning consent to improve the junction with the main road.

This application is due to come before Vale planners on December 16.

Mr Howells said that between both applications, the number of houses in Ogmore was due to increase from the present 400 to 569.

"That's a 40 per cent

increase and that influx of newcomers will change the whole character of the village," he said. "It's out of scale with what's here already. Facilities in Ogmore are very poor."

"We have no community centre or village hall and our only pub has closed, with the owner saying it will never reopen."

"We have no guarantee that the proposed new pub would ever open or if it did open, that it would succeed. It would have no sea view and would be well off the main road and passing trade."

The village does have a post office/general store and a cafe.

Mr Howells said that planners need to look at the cumulative impact of the two developments.

"A sustainability assessment was done on Ogmore a few years ago which said that it had employment opportunities. That report is well out of date because the two sources of employment cited were the Ogmore Camp and the Sea Lawns pub - both of which are closed. The only other jobs in the village are the few associated with the shop and cafe."

He added that the Kingswood plan to develop the centre would have created 70 jobs for local people.



## 'Love2Walk' festival showcased local beauty

**BRIDGEND** Love2Walk Festival 2010 has been hailed a "huge success" - after encouraging hundreds of people from across south Wales to dust off their walking boots and visit the rural areas in Bridgend county borough.

A spokeswoman said that the walking festival was made up of 25 walks led by experienced local walk leaders, and saw an increase in attendance by almost 200 per cent compared to last year.

The range and number of walks also increased this year, with walkers reporting that their variety and quirk-

ness - including bat, ghost, bushcraft, iron, coal and industrial walks - were a key attraction.

Bridgend County Borough Council Deputy Leader David Sage, who officially launched the event at Kenfig Nature Reserve, said: "This was an excellent event and a credit to all concerned."

"I'd particularly like to acknowledge the excellent partnership work between the local authority, Reach, and other agencies to make this event happen. Events such as the Bridgend Love2Walk Festival can play its role in improving the borough's image as a destination to visit, live, work and invest in. "As a local authority,

we hope that the festival will become a key event in the calendar, and will grow from strength to strength each year."

Visitor Hayley Kennedy from Port Talbot added: "We went on the bat and ghost walk and my two boys thoroughly enjoyed it. I've never been to Bridgend County Borough before apart from visiting Porthcawl or the designer outlet, but it definitely opened my eyes to what the county has to offer."

"I am already planning some family day trips and picnics to Bryngarw House and other areas in the spring."

"I can't believe such beauty is on my doorstep and I wasn't aware!"



## Newton pupils get fire safety lesson

PUPILS in Newton Primary School had a 'hands-on' session with local firefighters, as part of a fire safety lesson.

Peter Bevan, the crew manager at Porthcawl Fire Station, took his fire tender and crew to the school to give a talk to pupils in class 5 on fire safety, with teacher Mrs Gore in attendance.

Before leaving, he promised to bring the fire engine back for another visit in the near future.



PHOTOGRAPH by KEITH E MORGAN

ABOVE: Class five pupils were able to take a close look at the fire engine.

## Man jailed after police discover stash of guns and other weapons

A BRIDGEND computer repairer has been jailed for nine years at Cardiff Crown Court for a series of firearms offences.

The court heard that when the police went to his flat, they found guns, ammunition, knives and equipment necessary to manufacture parts for weapons, in order to recommission imported decommissioned weapons.

Mark Kelly had pleaded guilty to possessing a prohibited Tokarev pistol, possessing soft-nosed ammunition, possessing ammunition without a certificate and for converting the Tokarev pistol.

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

He denied possessing a prohibited firearm, storing explosives without a licence and possessing amphetamine with intent to supply.

It was directed that these charges lie on the file. Passing sentence, Mr Justice David Lloyd-Jones said that recommissioning the pistol had "required a great deal of skill".

He said that equipment was found to manufacture ammunition, possessing ammunition without a certificate and for converting the Tokarev pistol.

He said that equipment was found to manufacture ammunition, possessing ammunition without a certificate and for converting the Tokarev pistol.

and recommission firearms.

"These are grave, aggravating features of the offences."

He directed that the weapons, ammunition and drugs be destroyed.

Prosecutor Martyn Kelly said that the offences came to light on June 18 when the police raided the home of the defendant.

"His flat was fortified and alarmed, probably as a result of an earlier unreported burglary where weapons and drugs had been stolen," he said.

The alarm at the flat was linked to the defendant's mobile phone and when he arrived home, he was arrested and found to be in possession of £669 in cash.

On the defendant's mobile phone, said Mr Kelly, were found photographs of knives, cash and guns.

Mr Kelly said that the defendant was undoubtedly involved in serious crime. He was said to have previous convictions for burglary and theft, possessing a shotgun without a certificate, attempting to pervert the course of justice, and possessing drugs with intent to supply.

His counsel, Hugh Wallace, said the proper sentence should be that of five years, the minimum for such offences.

He said Kelly had bought the pistol on Ebay and converted it into a "proper working firearm".

No use was made of the weapon and "there was absolutely no evidence" it was even fired or that it left his home.

"It was part of his collection of weapons which included swords and knives, some worth up to £600. None were for sale."

"He is a genuinely serious collector and there was nothing sinister in someone collecting weapons. He is an intelligent man," Mr Wallace added.

## Local Specsavers highlights World Diabetes Day

IN support of World Diabetes Day on Sunday, November 14, Specsavers in Bridgend is to raise awareness of the importance of regular eye examinations to detect the sight-threatening condition.

Anne Lowndes, store director at Specsavers in Bridgend, said: "Although this is a global awareness day, diabetes is very much an issue in the UK."

"People with diabetes are 20 times more at risk of going blind than someone without the condition. We also want to raise awareness that an eye examination can detect signs of diabetes among people who don't even realise they have it, which is why we are urging everyone to have an eye test at least every two years."

WE ARE NOW ONLINE!  
You can read your GEM at [bridgend-today.co.uk](http://bridgend-today.co.uk) or [porthcawl-today.co.uk](http://porthcawl-today.co.uk)

## Community news from KENFIG HILL AND PYLE

by Richard Sims

Telephone: 01656 746840

Mobile: 07802 439679

### Medium night

A MEDIUM night is being held at the Woodstock Inn, Kenfig Hill on Wednesday, November 17 at 7pm, in aid of the 'Parkinsons Trust'.

With medium Mike Davies and a raffle, and many prizes including a mobile phone donated by a local phone shop, plus a family ticket to watch the Ospreys, it will be an entertaining night.

Tickets are £5 - with all the money going to the trust. For tickets or more information, telephone Cherie on 01656 740816.

### St Theodore's Church

THE induction of the new Parish Priest, Fr Jonathan Durley, will take place on Tuesday, November 23.

On the following day, a fashion show will be held in the Kenfig Hill RFC. Tickets at £3 are now available from Margaret Phillips (01656 741585), the Church Shop or the Rugby Club.

This year, St Theodore's Christmas shopping trip is going to Cheltenham on Saturday, December 4, the price will be £11, and anyone wishing to go should contact Christine Portsmouth.

The Christmas Tree Festival will be held in the church again this year, from December 8-12. They would welcome anyone who would like to support this festival again, by putting a tree to promote their organisation or business, give a raffle prize or a donation towards a larger tree.

For further information regarding the above events, telephone Christine Portsmouth on 01656 742987.

### Community Watch

BEWARE, in recent weeks a scam involving a company that has been targeting the elderly in the community, has been brought to the attention of our Neighbourhood Policing Team.

It claims to specialise in medication, tackling weight loss and arthritis, among other things. Once products have been purchased from them, a representative will call you on a regular basis.

They will try to get your bank details by telling you that they will transfer large sums of money into your account.

If anyone has information, contact the Trading Standards Office on 01656 643278.

Since residents have said that parking in Cefn Cribwr and anti-social behaviour in Kenfig Hill and Pyle, should be a priority at a recent PACT meeting, the Neighbourhood Policing Team have been on regular patrols in those areas.

Since sending letters to all residents advising about the PACT priority in the Heol Shon area of Cefn, no reports regarding parking concerns have been received by the police.

With regard to the anti-social behaviour in Waunbant Road, Kenfig Hill and Marlas Road, Pyle, patrols have been made at different times and no further reports of this behaviour have been made.

The good news is, that since being contacted about the damage caused, BCBC are due to make repairs to the children's play area in Waunbant Road.

Have your say at the next PACT meeting on Thursday, November 18 in the Talbot Community Centre, Prince Road, Kenfig Hill.

### Kenfig Hill RFC

TOP Welsh Band 'The Monophonic' will be performing at the Kenfig Hill RFC, on Friday, November 19 at 9pm. Tickets, which can be

purchased at the club, or pay at the door on the night, are £5; all proceeds will go to the mini/junior section tour next April. For details, telephone 01656 740375.

### Bethel Community Church

THE Bethel Community Church, Pwllgath Street, Kenfig Hill is hosting a 'Ladies Gospel Choir' evening on Saturday, November 13 at 7pm.

The purpose of the event is not only to enjoy listening to the Ladies Choir, but also raise funds for the Sandville Self Help Centre.

Admission is free; however, every penny collected will be given to the centre.

The church also welcomes you to go along on any Tuesday morning between 10am and 12pm, to meet up for a chat.

### The Sandville GWYNETH

POACHER, from the Sandville Self Help Centre and her supporters, will be holding another grand sale of new and nearly new clothes at the Talbot Community Centre, Prince Road, Kenfig Hill, from 2pm-3.30pm on November 15.

Gwyneth with her staff and volunteers carry out tremendous work; however, this is at a cost, and so that she can continue to help people in this way, money must be raised.

### Councillors' surgery

BOROUGH councillors Clive James and Megan Inglesant will be holding advice surgeries on Saturday, November 27 at the Talbot Community Centre, Prince Road, Kenfig Hill from 10am-11am and at Pyle Life Centre from 11.15am-12.15pm.

## Chance to take a sleigh ride with Santa!

ONE lucky child will win an exciting sleigh ride with Santa this Christmas, when he makes a special visit to Bridgend town centre on Saturday, November 27.

Santa will glide into Queen Street on his festive sleigh at 1.30pm accompanied by his trusted reindeer. He will then travel to Dunraven Place to open this year's Christmas grotto, welcoming children and making a note of everyone's Christmas lists, while the reindeer take a well-earned rest.

At 4.30pm Santa will set out for Market St where he will be turning on Bridgend's

Christmas lights. But he does not want to make the journey alone and has room for a passenger. To win this visit with Santa all you have to do is complete the following sentence "I love Bridgend at Christmas because...."

The competition is open to children between the ages of 5-10 and entry forms will be available in town centre shops or online at [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk). All entries must be posted into one of Rudolf's post boxes located at Wilkinsons, Clarkes, Angel Muffin, the Indoor Market and the Civic Offices by noon Friday November 19.

VA Newman Glass Bridgend Quiz League

## No shocks in first round of the KO Cup

THE first round of the KO Cup was held on Monday, November 1, with all teams taking part.

There were no surprises or 'giant-killings.'

Two sides managed to successfully complete the roll-up round, Llangewydd Arms, who also had highest score when beating Coychurch Wanderers 84-51, and Llangainor AFC, who were beaten by Llynfi Arms 71-58.

Then came four with high scores, Royal Oak Nomads 70-44 winners at Oddfellows Arms, Mackworth Arms, who won 69-43 at Tondur Railway Club, Maesteg Catholic Club winning by 65-46 away to Pheasant Gamekeepers and Six Bells who beat Pheasant Poachers by 65-39.

Oldcastle 'A' had a close encounter with Laleston Inn 'A', eventually going through to the next round by 61-59.

The other Laleston Inn versus Oldcastle clash was between the 'B' teams and the former won by 60-50.

A slightly weakened Tyrisha Royals managed to see off Heol-y-Cyw RFC by 53-38 and finally, Cabo Roche had a 44-32 victory against Pyle RFC.

Here are this week's teasers:-

1. The New York boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens are both situated on which island?

2. Which company launched the first Credit Card in New York in 1950?

3. Which Scot captained the European Ryder Cup team of 2002?

4. Who became the first freely elected President of the Russian Federation in June 1991?

A RUDDGE, Hon Sec.

ANSWERS:  
1. Long Island  
2. Diner's Club  
3. Sam Torrance  
4. Boris Yeltsin



# Some very ghostly goings-on in Nottage!

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN



ABOVE: Walkers assembled outside The Swan ready for the Porthcawl Paranormal Group annual Halloween walk around the spooky lanes and by-ways of Nottage. Included in the picture are the Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Mary Emmet-Lewis, author Hayley Williams and Tracey Walmsley, the walk organiser.

THE Porthcawl Paranormal Group held their Halloween gathering at The Swan, Nottage, again this year, and it was attended by the Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Mary Emmet-Lewis.

The mayor was able to obtain

a preview copy of Writer Hayley Williams' latest book *The History and Hauntings of Porthcawl and District*.

It has the same title as her first book, but is a sequel, containing more information on the ghostly goings on in the area.

The new book, at £6 per copy,

is to be officially launched at The Swan on Saturday, November 13.

Following a short talk by writer Hayley Williams, the group, led by Tracey Walmsley, walked the spooky lanes and by-ways of Nottage.

## Care warden 'pillaged' old lady's savings – court told

Report by by AJ SICLUNA

A CARE warden from Bridgend preyed on a vulnerable, elderly woman and "pillaged" her life savings, it has been alleged at Cardiff Crown Court.

Diana Thomas (63) committed frauds involving £50,000, sometimes withdrawing £300 a day.

This occurred after she illegally gave herself power of attorney over the pensioner's finances, claimed prosecutor Christopher Rees.

Mair Eluned Harris (79) had thought such a lot of Thomas that she made her and her husband Colin the sole beneficiaries of her estate,

and in 1999 she signed documents agreeing that should she become mentally incapable, Thomas would have full control over her affairs.

However, said Mr Rees, 10 years' later and of perfectly sound mind, Mrs Harris discovered that Thomas, behind her back, had gone to the Court of Protection and had immediate power of attorney granted to her.

Mr Rees claimed that from November 2007, her friend had total access to all the bank accounts and set about "fraudulently enriching

herself and her family."

Within nine months, said Mr Rees, she visited cash points 53 times, taking out a total of £15,900.

Mr Rees said that showed how keen she was to "pillage" as much as she could.

Matters came to a head last November when Thomas was arrested, after abortive attempts to cash in a Scottish Widows investment for £12,500, and the power of attorney was revoked.

Mr Rees said that Mrs Harris was a widowed schoolmistress with no

children, brothers or sisters.

She said when she befriended the Thomas family, she gave funds for a son to study at university, for a child to move house, and gave Thomas and her husband money to visit another son in Canada.

When Thomas was arrested, she claimed that Mrs Harris was a friend who told her: "Get rid of all my money" and had agreed the power of attorney being granted.

Thomas has denied eight charges of fraud and one charge of theft. The case continues.



ABOVE: Hayley Williams prepares to sign a copy of her new book for the mayor.

## MAESTEG MAN'S PORNOGRAPHIC IMAGES ON HIS COMPUTER

by AJ SICLUNA

A MARRIED Maesteg man has been sentenced to a community order involving three years supervision, for bringing up child pornography images on his computer.

Judge David Wynn Morgan told 51-year-old William Blower at Cardiff Crown Court: "There has to be a sanction hanging over your head which reflects the disgust of the community."

Blower admitted 13 charges of making indecent photographs, four of possessing indecent photographs, and one of possessing a Lee Enfield rifle without a certificate.

Prosecutor Tracey Lloyd-Nesling said that the offences came to light as a result of a website involving pornography being set up in Croatia which, within a few days received 12 million hits. One of those who entered the site was the defendant.

At his home in March of last year, the police found a number of computers and the firearm. He denied being inter-

ested in child abuse images, but said that they "inadvertently" popped up.

The images ranged from level one to level five, the most serious. There were also a number of indecent videos.

Miss Lloyd-Nesling said Blower told the police that he was only interested in "granny porn" and the gun was kept as an ornament.

He was said to have a previous conviction for having unlawful sex with a girl aged 13.

His counsel, Jennett Trehaime, said that many of the images were of adult pornography and the level of offending was low.

"This is a man who needs help. He needs to realise this type of offending has to be addressed."

He was ordered to register as a sex offender and to take part in a community sex offender treatment programme.

The judge said the court was not being soft, and he was going to be confronted with his accessing material which was degrading.

He was also made subject to a sex offender prevention order.

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## PACT meetings during November

BRYNTHIRION, LALESTON and MERTHYR MAWR PACT, Laleston Gardening Club, Thursday, November 11, 7pm.

MORFA WILDMILL PACT, Wildmill Community Centre on Thursday, November 11, 6.30pm.

LITCHARD and PENDRE PACT, Litchard Mission on Monday, November 15, 6pm.

CEFN GLAS, LLANGEWYDD and BRYNHAFRYD PACT, Westward Community Centre, Monday, November 22, 6pm.

FELINDRE, HENDRE and PENPRYSG (PENCOED) PACT, Welfare Hall, Heol Y Groes on Wednesday, November 24, 6.30pm.

BRACKLA PACT, Brackla Junior School, Brackla Way, on Thursday, November 25, 6.30pm.

OLDCASTLE PACT, The Library, Brynteg Comprehensive School, Wednesday, December 15, 6.30pm.

NEWCASTLE PACT, Civic Offices, Angel Street on Monday, January 10, 2011, 7pm.

MORFA TOWN, Penybont Primary School, Minerva Street on Monday, January 10, 2011, 6.30pm.

## Local company's donation will protect wildlife

ROCKWOOL, the Pencoed-based insulation manufacturer, has contributed £20,000 to a Coity project aimed at doubling the size of a biodiversity habitat in Bridgend.

The project will see new habitats created on the Hirgoed and Mynydd y Gaer commons and has gained a £460,344 'Flagship Scheme' grant from Biffaward, one of only two issued by Biffaward within the UK this year.

However to unlock the grant, locals had to

raise £46,034.42 of their own funding.

The biodiversity project was initiated by local resident Stuart Vincent, who campaigned to raise the funds and contacted Rockwool, which donated £20,000 – around half the amount needed.

The project will see the commons of Cefn Hirgoed and Mynydd y Gaer, which surround Rockwool's manufacturing plant in Pencoed, enhanced with six priority habitats created.

The project will take place over a total area of 1,065 hectares (4.1 mi<sup>2</sup>), increasing the current biodiversity habitat by 573 hectares (2.21 mi<sup>2</sup>).

The scheme will be undertaken by Coity Wallia Commoners' Association in association with PONT and Commons Vision Ltd and will begin in January 2011 with completion scheduled for April 2014.

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# MAN WHO LASHED OUT WITH A STANLEY KNIFE SENT TO PRISON

A man underwent surgery and a loss of function in one of his arms when he was stabbed with a Stanley knife.

Daniel Bedernyak (26) told the victim, Robert Bowden: "You know what this is about," Cardiff Crown Court heard.

Bedernyak of Bridgend initially lashed out at the face of Robert Bowden, who put an arm up to defend himself and suffered a deep wound to it, said prosecutor

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

Jonathan Bushell. Bedernyak was sentenced to six years imprisonment and ordered to be on licence for eight years, after he admitted a charge of wounding with intent.

He also admitted possessing cannabis with intent to supply and dishonestly handling a BlackBerry phone.

Judge Nicholas Cooke said: "The use of knives is a horrifying and terrible thing. You

lashed out at a fellow human being."

He said he was passing an extended sentence to minimise the risk to the public.

Mr Bushell said that on June 20, police searched a flat in Porthcawl, where they found the defendant in possession of cannabis and the stolen phone.

He said that on another occasion, Mr Bowden was in a car in Brackla, which was flagged down by

Bedernyak. It was then that he carried out the knife attack.

The defendant fled from the scene, went home and drank several bottles of lager.

The court was told he was later arrested in Park Street, Bridgend and said: "Yes, I did hit him, he's been bullying me."

He said that he had punched him and denied using the knife.

Bedernyak said he suffered from an attention deficit syndrome and a desire to self-harm.

On the day of the offence, he said he had failed to take medication, but had taken amphetamine and drugs.

Mr Bushell said the victim had made a full recovery, but had sleeping and eating problems, had lost weight and was now - "Always looking over his shoulder."

Defence counsel Meirion Davies said his client recognised there was only one sentence.

He said there was a "history" between the two men.

"They were not exactly friendly," he added.

# Remembrance day dispute 'casts shadow'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Canon Amos, in a statement to The GEM, said that the Canon then prepared the text of the service and sent it to the council, inviting comments, but there was no reply. After a month, he arranged to have the order of service printed. The council has acknowledged, in a reply to Canon Hanford on November 4, that there had been a delay in responding caused by the illness of the clerk and problems with the computer.

But there is now some divergence of opinion over what happened next. A copy of the order of service has been sent by Fr Amos to The Gem which clearly shows that Canon Hanford had factored in to the service the need for the congregation to depart in good time for the two-minute silence.

He had planned to continue the service at the war memorial with the singing of the hymn 'O God our help in ages past', before the 11am deadline.

But in its reply to him about the order of service, the community council stated that they wanted the service at the war memorial to remain the same as it always had been, and they had found someone else to "hold it together" at the memorial.

As a result of that e-mail, Fr Amos felt that Canon Hanford had been badly treated and he has now sent a letter to the community council and to every member of the church, in which he states that the service at the war memorial will be run by the Royal British Legion and the council.

Those in church will remain there for the two-minute silence at 11am. Speaking to The GEM, Fr Amos insisted that rumours in Kenfig Hill that Canon Hanford had not intended to carry out the service at the cenotaph, or that the two-minute silence would be held in the church were untrue.

In the order of service, it was clearly emphasised that everyone would go down to the war memorial in time for the silence.

Fr Amos pointed out that there had been no direct communication between either himself or Canon Hanford with the Royal British Legion, who were not present at the meeting that took place.

He said that there was therefore no disagreement between the church and the Legion.

The service planned by Canon Hanford was exactly the same as those conducted during the past 50 years.

Canon Amos said he only decided to hold the full Remembrance service in the church after Canon Hanford was told that somebody else

would conduct the service at the memorial.

Fr Amos said that his decision was precipitated by the council's decision to reject the previously-agreed order of service and deciding to dismiss Canon Hanford from the cenotaph part of the service.

He went on: "Neither I or the parish have withdrawn from anything - The Pyle Community Council have ejected us."

"Was Canon Hanford supposed to proceed to the cenotaph, irrespective that somebody else was now appointed in his place to do that for which he was appointed?"

He said that the parish church had been displaced from the village's act of Remembrance by the council. It was the community council's actions that had brought about this situation.

In a further statement, he said: "It remains my hope that the Remembrance Sunday service can be returned to the one unified event, as formerly agreed between the church and the community council before those arrangements were unilaterally terminated by the council."

He added that if the council contacted him to discuss this, it would be possible to reinstate the original order of service prepared by Canon Hanford, who would

preside at the cenotaph on behalf of all the people of Kenfig Hill.

Legion chairman Ron Clarke said that he understood the canon had stated that everything had previously done by the Legion and the council at the war memorial was wrong and that he wanted to make changes.

"I was told that he wanted the two-minute silence to be in the church and then people would go down to the cenotaph. But that has always happened at the war memorial."

As a result, the Legion had decided against going to the church and would go instead straight to the cenotaph. He stressed that it was up to individuals to decide what to do, the Legion was working with the community council on all the arrangements.

"We have been doing it like this for 50 years but now everybody is upset. We are sticking to our usual practice."

A church member, who asked not to be named, said that church members will have to deal with the fall-out from this row. Many fear it will cause ill feeling and a rift between the church and the community.

Coun Luke Ellis, who is the community council's designated spokesman, said that the dean should "stop spin-

ning and start listening to the views of the people of the communities of Kenfig Hill and Pyle."

In a statement, he said that the community council would stand by the Royal British Legion and join them at the cenotaph at 10.45am. Chairman Paula James would attend at the cenotaph to lay a wreath, along with representatives of other organisations.

He added: "Those who wish to attend the church with its strange new rules will be prohibited from leaving the church, according to the letter written by a church official."

"Those wishing to join the community service and observe the two-minute silence at the war memorial on non-Anglican ground are welcome to attend at the cenotaph, as has always been the case."

He added that this service saw the community coming together to pay their respects to the souls who laid down their lives for the nation.

He said that everyone looked forward to the arrival of the new vicar and "prayed that the church hierarchy never interferes again in such a sacred annual collective moment."

The new vicar of the parish, Rev Jonathan Durlley, is due to take over on November 23.

## Asda to open in Maesteg

ASDA is coming to Maesteg! It has decided to purchase the Somerfield store in the town centre from the company which is now part of the Co-operative food group.

It had been expected that Somerfield would be rebranded as a Co-Op, but staff were called in last week and told of the sale of the store.

A spokesman for Asda said that they were buying three stores around the UK, including Maesteg.

The purchase has been referred to the Office of Fair Trading before it can be finalised.

If approved, Asda intend to trade there as it is although they may make some alterations and extensions later if these are justified by the volume of

business. All staff will transfer to Asda and retain their employment rights.

The news should boost trade in the town centre as the store is located only yards away from Talbot Street. It has been welcomed by Richard Collins, president of the Chamber of Trade.

"This is justice for Maesteg because they are coming to the town centre which is what Tesco should have done."

"Hopefully, it will generate the footfall which has been lost since Tesco went to its site by the rugby club."

"We have lost an incredible amount of trade in the town as can be seen by the empty shops in Commercial Street."

Mr Collins added that bringing more people into the town centre would help all the existing businesses:

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## Residents urged to fight axing of Porthcawl bus

**PORHCRAWL residents are being urged to fight plans by First Cymru to axe the direct bus from the town to Swansea.**

The company has decided to scrap the 224 service on November 21. They are shaking up a number of bus routes at that time and a spokeswoman said that Porthcawl residents would be able to travel to either Pyle Cross or Bridgend to pick up buses to Swansea and Neath.

The company has decided to extend the X4 from Neath to Bridgend which would give a greater frequency of buses travelling to Port Talbot and Neath.

But she conceded that Porthcawl residents will still have to catch two buses to reach Port Talbot, Neath or Swansea.

She said that the company constantly reviewed its network to try and match resources to demand.

An earlier attempt by First Cymru to axe the direct Maesteg to Swansea bus failed after an outcry from residents leading the company to reinstate the service.

Protests are already mounting against this move and a spokesman

for BCBC's transportation department, which deals with bus services, said that they understood that a petition is being circulated at the moment.

All letters of protest will be forwarded to First Cymru, as this was a commercially registered route and not one that the council had "bought back".

The council does have a budget to lay on services to plug gaps in provision by the commercial sector but it is unclear at the moment what budget will be available for this in the new financial year.

Coun Alana Davies said she had been contacted by residents and would be asking the council to investigate.

"It seems ridiculous to me that people wanting to travel west are going to have to go east first to Bridgend."

"We also have the issue of people needing to visit patients at Neath Port Talbot Hospital in Baglan. They will have to catch three buses each way to get there - one to Bridgend or Pyle, one to Port Talbot and then a local service bus to the hospital."

"That's going to be a nightmare especially for older people and will mean that it will be quite late at night by the time they get home because there is only evening visiting there at the

moment."

Coun Davies added that if people go to Pyle Cross and wait, the buses are often full when they arrive from Bridgend meaning that they could have to stand for part of the journey. She urged the whole town to fight this decision.

"Public transport needs to be accessible but this will make it less so in Porthcawl."

She has asked the transportation department for information about what's happening.

"We must ask First Cymru to look at this decision again. It has pushed the people of Porthcawl out of the loop."

Porthcawl Town council leader David Deere said he was horrified at the decision.

He said: "I will be asking the clerk to prepare a full report on what's happening so that we can discuss it at a future meeting."

"It is my view that we should lead the campaign to get the service reinstated. Maesteg Town Council was involved in a highly successful campaign when their bus to Swansea was axed and with public support, they won. We must take a leaf out of their book."

"This decision leaves the public of Porthcawl hugely disadvantaged."



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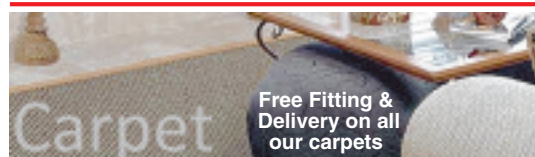
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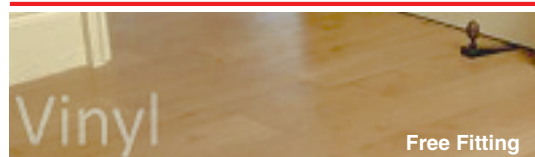
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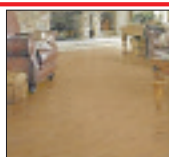
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**Debbie Morgan, Cardiff**

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**Pete & Jenny Ashford, Penmark**

“Thought we'd drop you a line to let you know how delighted we are with the tiled floor which you recently installed in our shower room. You were most courteous, professional and your attention to detail was greatly appreciated. We would certainly recommend your company to anyone requiring flooring.”  
**P John, Bridgend**

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# YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS



THE CHOIR HELP TO CELEBRATE THE OPENING OF BOWRINGTON ARCADE.

## Choir's tour

COR Merched Cwm Llynfi (Llynfi Valley Ladies Choir) recently returned from a successful tour of Fuengirola in Southern Spain.

The last concert of the tour in the Elliott Hotel, Gibraltar, was filmed and played on Gibraltar's national TV station, and also published in the Gibraltar Post newspaper.

Following this, they had a civic reception lunch with the Mayor of Gibraltar Anthony JP Lombard.

The vice-chair of the choir, Jacqui Summers, together with secretary Ruth Dennis, presented a scroll and plaque to the Mayor, donated by Maesteg town council and the Mayor, Coun Phil John.

Since arriving back in Maesteg, the choir has been busy singing at a number of civic events in the town. The first was to celebrate the opening of the Bowington Arcade originally opened to the public 100 years ago. It had been built by the local Co-operative movement of Maesteg, and is now a thriving centre of local shops.

The choir had been requested to sing at the official opening of the new reference library located in Maesteg sports centre, opened by Coun Colin Teasdale, Mayor of Bridgend.

The opening was attended by civic dignitaries who praised the quality of the singing which resonated throughout the building, as both the Llynfi Valley ladies choir and Ysgol Cynwyd Sant children's choir were singing in the upper level of the main hall.

On Tuesday,

## NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

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TEL: 01656 725399

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November 2, the secretary Ruth Dennis and vice-chair Jacqui Summers presented the town council and Mayor of Maesteg, with gifts from the Mayor of Gibraltar, Anthony JP Lombard, which they had been given during their tour of Spain.

They were a book of Gibraltar's 300 years history, and a plaque of brass standing on a glass inscribed base.

The choir rehearses in Celtic RFC, Bridgend Road, Garth on Wednesday evenings between 7pm and 9pm. Visitors and new members will be made most welcome. For information phone Ruth on 01656 733581.

## Children's choir

MAESTEG Children's Choir have been asked to perform a second major charity concert at the same venue in the last two years.

They normally rehearse at Plasnewydd primary school, but as it was closed over the half-term holiday, they have been rehearsing in the Salvation Army hall.

The concert takes place in St David's Hall, Cardiff, on Saturday, November 20 and they will be performing alongside massed ladies choirs of more than 300 choristers from the south Wales and Bristol areas.

The conductor will be

their musical director, Enid-Siân Hughes, with the choir's accompanist Ryan Wood.

The massed ladies choirs will be conducted by Richard Stephens and the accompanists for the concert are Rhiannon Williams-Hale and Nicola Rose on piano, with Terence Gilmore-James on the organ.

The soloist for the evening is mezzo-soprano Beverly Humphreys and the evening will be compered by Sara Edwards, BBC presenter.

The concert is being held to raise funds for the Noah's Ark appeal.

## Cymanfa Ganu

A CYMANTHA Ganu is being held on Friday, November 12 at 6.30pm in Maesteg town hall; the tickets are £3 and all money raised is for the charity 'Help the Heroes'.

## Maesteg Gleemen

THE choir will be leading the hymn singing at the Remembrance Day service on Sunday, November 14 starting at 9.30am in St. Michael's church, Maesteg.

Later, they will lead the march to the cenotaph at Maesteg town hall, where the congregation can lay their wreaths as the choir sing the hymns, including 'Mansions of the Lord', the hymn that was sung

at the US President Ronald Reagan's funeral.

## Remembrance service

HOREB Baptist Chapel, in Dinam Close, Nantymoel, will hold a Remembrance Day service on Sunday, November 14 starting at 10.55am with a two-minute silence after the first hymn at 11am.

The congregation will be taking a five-minute stroll to the memorial shelter opposite the clock tower, where the members will be able to lay their wreaths of condolences.

In the evening, the service will be conducted by the Rev David Bennett, of the Gospel preacher association.

## Poppy Day appeal

I RECENTLY wrote about the magnificent concert in the Garw Valley leisure centre involving the Royal Corps of Signals band, Garw Valley male voice choir and the pride of the evening, the Faldau primary school choir.

At the time I could not publicise details on the school choir, because I did not have the permission of those involved.

This choir, which stole the show, was conducted by Ms Annette Dobbs and the accompa-

and after a very good meal were entertained by CJ of the Eggheads. The Glamorgan Poppies then presented Chairman Pam Dinam with a substantial cheque.

On November 27, Coity WI will have a stall at Gilead Chapel Christmas fair.

The next meeting will be held at Coity Church Hall on November 24, when the speaker will be Mrs Christine Seaman who will tell us about her life as a dancer. New members welcome.



THE PRESENTATION TO MAYOR OF GIBRALTAR.



RECEPTION LUNCH IN GIBRALTAR.

nist

RIGHT: Presentation of gifts from the Mayor of Gibraltar accepted by the Mayor of Maesteg, Coun Phil John on behalf of the town council.

was Ms Louise Taylor. In the choir's version of 'Sometimes I wonder, the solo part was magnificently sung by young Megan Davies.

## Table top sale

ST DAVID'S church, Bettws, has now been opened as a distribution centre for the Bridgend food bank, with a quantity of food and all the associated paperwork now available.

On Friday November 19, members of the church will be holding a table top sale at 2.30pm to help raise funds.

The outreach service was moved from the last Sunday in the month to October 24 with the headteacher of Bettws primary school arranging for the school to be opened during the half-term break.

The messy church facility on Tuesdays between 3.30pm-4.30pm for children aged between five to 11 years old is proving to be a big success.

At the last count there were 39 children enjoying themselves.

## LBA Mothers' Union

THE members of this group of ladies have been busy knitting, collecting toys and packing shoe boxes throughout October for the 'Operation Christmas Child' appeal.

There were special birthday wishes to three of the members, with members Raema, Joan Thomas and Vera White actually celebrating with tea and birthday cake.

Stephen Jarvis spoke on 'Cooking up the Past' during the first meeting last month, bringing along a number of utensils which were used by

## WI news

ON October 27, the members and friends of Aberkenfig and District WI had lunch followed by a shopping trip to Cardiff.

The link social evening in the Talbot Institute in Kenfig Hill which entertained members from Aberkenfig and District, Cefn Cribbwr, Laleston and Mynydd Cynfig was very pleasant, with a beetle drive and also two young female singers who kept the ladies entertained.

This year is the 25th anniversary of Mynydd Cynfig WI. The autumn council meeting in Barry Memorial Hall on October 9 had Frank Vickery as the guest speaker.

## Coity or Coety?

I HAVE received an e-mail correcting my spelling of Cantorian Coety by a member of the public, he writes that the spelling of Coity as on the road signs is incorrect and is anglicisation of Coed Ty - the house in the woods, and the actual spelling should be Coety.

I wonder what the residents of Coity think?

## Gold book

PAUL BOOTH, the headteacher of Ogmores Vale primary school has decided that as an experiment, any adult whose Key Stage 2 child is due to receive a gold book award in the Friday morning assembly will be invited to attend the presentation.

Responsible adults of year one pupils are invited to come along and see how their child is getting on between 9am until after the gold book assembly tomorrow Friday, November 12.

grandmothers in the past.

WI AGM in October, everyone on the committee opted to carry on with the jobs they were doing last year and Eunice suggested that new committee member Sally becomes a deputy for everyone ie covering the competition or the sales table.

New members and visitors are always welcome to the meetings at 2pm on the second Wednesday of each month at the Welfare Hall, Heol Persondy, and Aberkenfig.

The next meeting of Aberkenfig and District WI will be the Christmas Party on December 8. More details for Aberkenfig WI can be found on www.cob-webs.uk.net.

Members of

## All Saints Church hold charity service

ON Sunday, December 5 at All Saints Church, Porthcawl, the local committee for Cancer Research UK will be holding its annual Lovelight Candle Service at 4pm.

This is a beautiful service where you can come along and light your candles for love, hope and peace, and after enjoy listening to Myndd Cynffig Junior Choir and Sounds Familiar.

Every year these two wonderful choirs support the committee in this very special service, so please come along and join us and we would be delighted to see all our loyal supporters.

DIANE JONES

## Our 'Poppies' bloom on television!

COITY WI have had another busy and rewarding month and members were congratulated on their success as they responded to the WI challenge to 'walk, swim or cycle 50 miles during the summer', no mean achievement.

October 13 generated a great deal of excitement as our president, Mary Poland,

## COITY WI NEWS

appeared on the BBC programme 'Eggheads' as part of the WI team 'The Glamorgan Poppies'.

The team of four ladies was made up of WI members from Culverhouse Cross, Llanblethian, Pentrec and Coity. As the programme was recorded in January the result had to be kept secret for many months, but it was worth the wait as the Eggheads were soundly beaten by the Glamorgan Poppies, and we are all very

proud of our WI team.

Our last meeting at Coity was the AGM with Mary Poland being re-elected as president and the rest of the committee also being re-elected.

Judith Lucas of Tir Iallt WI was a gracious and very able advisor, and the meeting concluded with a cheese and wine buffet.

The Penta Penybont Link met at Llanharry Workmens' Club for a very successful social evening. More than 100 ladies attended,



# Man's pornographic images on computer

WHEN police examined the computer belonging to a 51-year-old Barry man, they found pornography in which he had categorised the ages of the children involved.

Cardiff Crown Court heard that James Moore had labelled them from six to 12 years old, and 13 to 15 years old.

Moore had been convicted by Vale magistrates of 19 offences of making indecent images, two of possessing extreme pornographic images and five of possessing indecent photographs of children.

He was sentenced to a community order of three years with a

## REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

requirement to complete a community sex offender treatment programme, and he was also ordered to register as a sex offender and to be subject to a sex offender protection order.

Judge David Wynn Morgan told him: "People know who you are, and people will know where you are. It is incumbent upon you to behave yourself."

Prosecutor David Webster said that as a result of information, the police searched his home on June 16 and seized a number of computers.

On one, they found 1,702 delet-

ed indecent photographs, some involving acts between children and adults and some involving sadism and bestiality.

On another computer, Moore had catalogued and labelled the material by age.

When arrested, Moore admitted downloading the images and explained that he deliberately sought them out.

He acknowledged there was no excuse.

His counsel Heath Edwards said he accepts the images are disgusting and he is prepared to take treatment to tackle his behaviour.

He said that Moore, who suffered from a serious back condition, had not made the images available for distribution.

## Penarth's Legion branch Remembers

MEMBERS and supporters of the Royal British Legion will be busy until November 14

(Remembrance Sunday), raising funds to enable the vital work of the Legion to be carried on.

Nearly ten and a half million people of all ages are eligible for support, ranging from young people serving at this moment, to the elderly and frequently infirm, who unstintingly gave so much in years gone by and now need us to repay just a small part of the debt that we owe them.

We are, as always, short of collectors and I am sure that if you decided to give it a try this year, you will find collecting for such a good cause very rewarding and will be eager to do your bit in the future.

You can either pop into the caravan in Penarth town centre and make yourself known to Ken, or ring 029 20707870 and ask to speak to Tony.

On Remembrance Sunday, we will assemble at Station Approach, Penarth at 10am to march to the Garden of Remembrance in Rectory Road, where a wreath-laying ceremony will take place.

We will then proceed via Windsor Terrace to Trinity Methodist Church in Stanwell Road, where a service of remembrance and thanksgiving will be conducted by the Pastor, the Rev Teddy Kalongo at 10.15am.

The parade will be directed by Lieutenant Mike Clark of the Army Cadet Force and led by the Penarth Royal British Legion Band (led by Mr Philip Morris).

After the service, the parade

will reform and march back to Station Approach, where it will be dismissed.

The Penarth British Legion will be delighted to be your hosts should you feel the pressing need for a drink and possibly a snack accompanied by a chance to take the weight off your feet in comfortable surroundings!

We will be entertained during the afternoon by 'Ray and Trio', what better way to round off the day?

We welcome anyone who would like to join in this parade, or later at Trinity, as a tribute to the sacrifices made by the brave men and women of our Armed Services, both past and present.

**RICHARD JAMES,**  
(Penarth RBL branch chairman).

## VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

# 'The new Government's plans will secure future of the local Post Offices'

HOW often do you visit your local Post Office? With Christmas approaching, many of us will be popping in to post those gifts, cards and festive messages to family and friends.

Over recent years, more than 6,000 post offices have closed, taking with them many local village shops, too.

Those who suffered most as a result were the most vulnerable in society.

Many residents have contacted me about the future of Post Office Ltd (POL) with concerns regarding the closure of yet more local post offices.

I am pleased that this administration is absolutely committed to the Post Office Network.

There will be no repeat of the last damaging closure programme and while Ministers are taking forward plans to inject private capital into Royal Mail Group and guarantee the universal service, they have made clear that Post Office Ltd (the counter service) is not for sale.

The Postal Services Bill



**Vale MP Alun Cairns** reports to GEM readers

also contains protections to ensure that the Post Office will always be run for the public benefit.

However, there are genuine concerns that the current structure is holding the network back.

In particular, the interests of the central holding company - Post Office Ltd, which manages the 373 Crown Offices - are not always aligned with locally-owned branches operated by sub-postmasters and mistresses.

Sub-postmasters are, for example, pitted against POL when they negotiate annual pay rates and they fear

expansion online, because they worry it will drive customers away from their stores.

That is why the Government has suggested that the Post Office could be ideally suited to become a John Lewis style co-operative structure, where employees, sub-postmasters and communities get a greater say in how the company is run - the Big Society in action.

Co-operatives UK has been asked to explore options for creating a mutualised Post Office, reporting back next spring.

Before any move to a mutual structure, there would be a full public consultation.

I can also confirm that the Government has already committed to increase its Post Office subsidy to £180 million for 2011/12.

Post Offices continue to play a vital social role in the heart of our local communities across the Vale and remain an incredibly important resource.

I feel that the Government's plans will secure the future of the Post Office Network for employees and local communities.

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## Disability sports week is a half term hit

A DISABILITY sports and play week was a huge half term hit in the Vale, with 38 children from 11 local schools enjoying a range of fun activities at Cadoxton Sports Hall.

Organised in partnership by the Vale Council's Disability Sport Wales development officer and play development team, and supported by a community-

focused schools grant, the packed week featured sports such as football, boccia, dodgeball, tri-golf and badminton as well as play activities including arts and crafts, mod roc, face painting and lots of Halloween games.

Of the youngsters who took part, 25 had disabilities while 13 were non-disabled, and everyone played happily together.

The inclusive nature of the week

delighted the Vale Council's Disability Sport Wales development officer Simon Jones, who said: "I think a huge benefit of the week was the fact that disabled children were able to take part in activities with non-disabled children."

To find out more about sports and play opportunities in the Vale of Glamorgan, please go online at [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/sportsandplay](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/sportsandplay).

## Riding for the disabled group finds a new home

by JAYNE ISAAC

THE BRIDGEND branch of Riding for the Disabled has found a new home at Pencoed College.

The charity had to leave its long-standing base in Coity after the deaths of Mr and Mrs John and Barbara Ladbroke, who gave them a home for many years on their farm.

Now, the organisation has settled into the college, which has offered the use of its indoor riding arena.

The charity has two horses of its own, which are stabled at the college, and also has the loan of four others owned by the college.

Spokesman Clive Roberts said that it was an ideal scenario.

"We are very grateful to the college for coming to our rescue and

giving us a new home," he said.

"We are able to offer two sessions a week to children from a number of special schools and units in the area. In all, we have 48 children riding with us at the moment."

The children come from Heronsbridge Special School and from units at Cynffig Comprehensive, Cefn Cribwr Primary, Archdeacon John Lewis Primary, Llangynwyd Primary and Maes yr Haul Primary.

Moving to the college has also meant less work for volunteers, as the horses are all looked after by staff and students at the college, which has a number of equine manage-

ment and related courses on offer.

The charity is also going to get a financial boost from the Bridgend branch of Sainsbury's, which has adopted them as their charity of the year.

Staff have already organised fundraising events and the organisation will be staging its Christmas raffle there, selling tickets to shoppers.

A "bag pack" is also scheduled for November 20, with volunteers manning eight check-outs and packing bags for customers in return for a donation.

"We are very grateful to Sainsbury's," added Mr Roberts. "This funding will give us a great boost."

"We have had a difficult year but things seem to be coming right for us now."

## Forest areas 'restricted' as tree cull begins

PUBLIC access to Hensol Forest has been restricted, as trees are felled in a fight against a fatal disease.

Hensol Forest is one of several sites in south Wales where *Phytophthora ramorum* (*P. ramorum*) was found in Japanese larch trees earlier this year.

Work is now under way to fell infected trees and sections of the forest will be closed to the public from November 2010 to March 2011, while

this work is carried out. *P. ramorum* is a fungus-like pathogen that kills many of the trees that it infects. When Japanese larch trees become infected, they produce high numbers of the spores that spread the disease with the result that a lot of these trees can become infected very quickly.

It is not harmful to humans or animals and, to avoid inadvertently spreading the pathogen, visitors to Hensol Forest and other infected woodlands are asked to observe some

simple biosecurity precautions which are explained on signs onsite. These include keeping to paths, keeping dogs on leads, cleaning footwear and not taking any plant material away.

Karl Charlton of Forestry Commission Wales, which manages Hensol Forest on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government, said:

"*Phytophthora ramorum* is a serious tree disease and, by felling infected trees at Hensol Forest, we hope to limit the production of the spores that spread

the infection and therefore minimise the impact of the outbreak."

Forestry Commission Wales staff will continue to monitor trees at Hensol Forest for signs of infection but symptoms may not become evident until next spring when larch trees - which are deciduous conifers - renew their needles.

Further information about *P. ramorum* can be found on the Forestry Commission's website at [www.forestry.gov.uk/pramorun](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pramorun).

## Charity craft fayre

THE Sully Inn will be raising funds for Marie Curie by holding a Christmas craft fayre and Santa's Grotto on December 4 between 1pm-5pm.

Local businesses will be able to sell produce with a charge of £5 for the stall, which will be donated to Marie Curie.

Also, we would like to invite musicians, singers or choirs who would like to perform and there will also be a charity quiz at 8.30pm.

For details, email Hayley on: [hayleymills88@hotmail.com](mailto:hayleymills88@hotmail.com) or write to The Sully Inn, Sully, Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 5TD.

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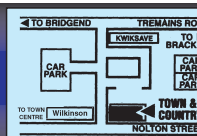


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## The High Street's chairman promises visitors 'the best Christmas yet!'

**F**ORGET the doom and gloom, Tony Hopkins, the chairman of High Street traders, is promising "the best Christmas yet" with the festive switch-on scheduled for Friday, November 19.

Tony explained that despite the modern obstacles of insurance issues and health and safety considerations, the traders were planning to put on the 'mother of all High Street Christmas parties'.

He said: "Thanks to Barry Town Council, which has sponsored the lights, and the Vale Council, which has sponsored the evening, along with all those who bought raffle tickets through the year, this year's event is set to be extra special. "Bro Radio's roadshow will be live on air, playing a mixture of the latest hits and Christmas songs.

"High Street School and Ysgol Sant Baruc children's choirs will be singing traditional carols – and Barry Male Voice Choir will be in fine voice too.

"Three local groups

Superstars in the Making, Pukka Productions and the Rising Sun Karate will be entertaining the crowds on the evening.

"We have The Monkey Playbus and a fire engine for inquisitive young children!"

Don't worry if it is chilly on the night either. Tony pointed out: "As always, hot food and drinks will be on offer by many traders to keep out the winter cold, and there will be stall holders from various charities adding to what's on offer, not forgetting the all-important Santa's Grotto."

The grand switch-on will take place at 5.30pm and will be performed by Father Christmas, with a few of his elf helpers, and under the glow of the new lights, the party will continue until 7.30pm.

Tony said: "The fun starts at 4pm. So come on down and explore our wonderful shops and start your Christmas shopping in a safe, festive, family environment where customers are treated as people, not just statistics on a list."

## Christmas on the High Street means being treated as a valued customer

by **TIM CHAPMAN**

**I**N the words of High Street traders' chairman Tony Hopkins, if you shop in Barry's West End "customers are treated as people, not just statistics on a list" – so why shop in the multi-nationals?

The sheer variety of shops in the High Street, Market Street, Broad Street and Island Road area is a sight to behold, and it has a great capacity to reinvent its shopping experience.

Broad Street Garden Centre is one of the area's hardy perennials – an essential destination for local gardeners established 22 years ago by popular local businessman John Shapland, and managed by his daughter Tonia.

She told The GEM: "Although dad has sort of retired, he comes in when we need staff cover because he misses the customers. They'll be seeing him over the festive season, that's for sure."

The garden centre will be supplying Christmas trees ideal for either outdoor or indoor use – the Norway tree (outdoor) or the Nordman (non drop variety).

Tonia said: "The trees should arrive from about November 22, and the sooner people come in, the more choice they are likely to have. We even

run a local delivery service."

The garden centre has a whole host of Christmas or gift items – box plants, outdoor ornaments such as garden mirrors, statues and Celtic crosses, bird tables, flower arranging kits for table decorations, biodegradable paper pots (rather than plastic pots), gardening tools, seeds, gift vouchers and holly wreaths which start at £5.99.

The store is also an official Calor gas agent supplying butane and propane bottles, along with other fuels like coal and logs.

Broad Street Garden Centre will be open for a half day on Christmas Eve and will then re-open on Wednesday, December 29.

John's other daughter Ceri runs Boverton Garden Centre and she offers an identical service for people in Llantwit to the one the Barry store provides.

(CONTINUED  
ON PAGE 15)

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# High Street, Broad Street, Island Road & Market Street, BARRY

## ...THIS IS INSPIRATIONAL CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

### PLENTY TO OFFER SHOPPERS FROM EVERYWHERE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14)

Moving from Broad Street into Market Street, you pass the ideal garage to make sure your car is in fine fettle for the winter weather.

Allun Jones of All Star Motors, who has run the business for 38 years, and works with son Tony, said: "We do servicing, repairs MoTs, and engine diagnostics which involves tracking down any faults. If people book an appointment, we can normally fit them in the next day."

Onto High Street and Rory O'Donovan of O'Donovans provides all your hardware needs.

Rory, who is Barry born and bred and is helped out in the shop by his 'Saturday girl' mum Shirley, said: "We've had this shop for 10 years. Originally, we started with a shop in Whitchurch Road, Cardiff, but wanted a shop in Barry and for a while ran the two."

"We've got festive products like a big range of Christmas lights, and items like

remote control cars and spiders (!) which would make fun gifts."

"Obviously, we have all the staple hardware products that people want, but at this time of year baking equipment, and cake and turkey tins are the sorts of things in big demand."

Are you starting to see why people rave about the great personal service and the variety offered in the West End?

But where you may ask, can the weary Christmas shopper relax with a coffee or get a bite to eat?

Enter High Street's Chaplin's Restaurant and Steakhouse, which is celebrating its first birthday.

Chaplin's is a classy retro-themed establishment redolent of the 1930s to 1950s with black and white décor, subdued lighting, leather chairs and Tiffany lampshades. It provides meals, snacks and drinks throughout the day.

Richard Patterson, the manager, said: "The last year has gone fantastically well. We've got a

clientele that ranges from people aged 18, to a lady from Barry who was in to celebrate her 103rd birthday!

"We open at 9.30am and offer breakfasts starting from £2.95. There's a lunch time menu, and snacks to eat in or take away, jacket potatoes, baguettes, and home-made soup."

"One of our most popular deals at the moment is two meals for £10!"

"From 5pm, we offer an a la carte menu with a wide range of reasonably-priced starters, main courses and desserts. We source as much as possible of our produce locally."

There's a licensed bar with a great range of draught beers, a large selection of wines, different types of whisky, and 12 liqueurs.

Richard has a piece of advice though: "Book early! Sunday lunchtime is often packed out."

Barry's West End is famed for its friendliness and the strong community spirit built up over many years, so when you are about to tackle your Christmas gift list make sure you make a trip to the High Street area!

### Ladies – it's time to spoil yourself this Christmas!

*A message for the gents...if you are stuck for some gift inspiration, there's no need to panic, just visit Jade Boutique and The Beauty Clinic, where both will happily help you get your gifts all wrapped up!*

**M**ANY women tend to selfishly think of the needs of everybody else in the family in the festive season, rather than themselves, so maybe it's time the ladies spoiled themselves with a

**new outfit or beauty treatment for Christmas!**

Jane James of Jade Boutique has built up a loyal local clientele over many years, and at Christmas is the 'go to' person for advice on the right evening dress, coat or accessory.

She has a strong idea of the sort of service people want: "I always

try to make it a friendly, personal atmosphere for people in the shop, and it pays off because I get a lot of repeat business from valued customers."

If a gent visits Jade Boutique to buy that special something for his wife or partner, Jane even offers a courtesy wrapping service!

To complement that stylish addition to your wardrobe from Jade Boutique, why not book a relaxing beauty treatment at The Beauty Clinic.

The owner, Michaela Glass, has 20 years experience of offering specialist treatments.

She explained: "We can do nail wraps with no drying time which can last for weeks and are very popular, non-

surgical facelifts, pre-party facials which take an hour, spray tans, waxing, and we offer holistic therapies such as aromatherapy and Indian head massage."

"The Caci non-surgical facial treatment system that we use has been featured on the Channel 4 programme

'10 Years Younger'."

Michaela and her staff have two late nights a week until Christmas – on Thursdays and Fridays they will be open until 7pm. With the Christmas party season about to begin, the advice is to book early for a beauty session.



ABOVE: Jane James of Jade Boutique.

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**THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL**

**Temporary Road Closure Order, Section 16A**  
Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

**HIGH STREET, BARRY**  
**CHRISTMAS EVENT**  
**FRIDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2010**

**Order Under Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. For the prevention of obstruction etc**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Vale of Glamorgan Council have made an order under Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as follows:-

WHEREAS during certain hours of the day and date specified in column 1 of the Schedule hereto the streets or part thereof listed in column 2 of the said schedule will be used for the holding of a relevant event as described in Section 16(A)(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Council, pursuant to the powers conferred by Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 do HEREBY ORDER AND DIRECT in order to facilitate the holding of the event, enable members of the public to watch the said event and to reduce the disruption to traffic likely to be caused by the event the following regulation shall be observed:-

THAT, except as provided by the order, the said streets or parts thereof shall be closed to all vehicular traffic, including pedal cycles, with the exception of Emergency Services Vehicles between the hours specified in column 3 of the said schedule. The penalty for infringement of the said regulation is a fine not exceeding £1000.00

#### SCHEDULE 1

| Column 1                  | Column 2  | Column 3         |
|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| Friday 19th November 2010 | High Street Barry between Market Street and East Street | 4.00pm to 7.00pm |
| Friday 19th November 2010 | Island Road Barry between Broad Street and Queen Street | 3.00pm to 7.00pm |

Local Signed Diversions shall be in place

Dated this 11th day of November 2010

M. Punter  
Head of Visible Services  
Vale of Glamorgan Council  
The Alps Wenvoe CF5 6AA



# High Street, Broad Street, Island Road & Market Street, BARRY

## ...THIS IS INSPIRATIONAL CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

### BUTCHERS SET FOR 15 HOUR DAY!



ABOVE: The staff of Vic Hopkins & Son will be working a marathon day on December 23.

One of the most popular businesses in High Street is Vic Hopkins & Son Family Butchers Ltd. Tony Hopkins and his staff will be working flat out in the lead up to Christmas to make sure the people of Barry get their turkeys and fresh meat over the festive season.

Vic, Tony's father, took over the shop in 1968 and ran it until 2005. Having worked on High Street for more than 44 years, Vic decided it was time to enjoy a well earned retirement and handed the reins over to Tony.

Tony's advice is: "Put in your Christmas orders early to avoid disappointment."

On Thursday, December 23, the shop have a marathon day to cope with all its customers. It will open at 7am and close at 10pm!

### There's something on offer for everybody this Christmas on Barry's 'High Street'



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ABOVE: Chaplin's Andrew Jenkins offers first class customer service and a nice bottle of red for two!



John Shapland of Broad Street Garden Centre, can offer winter warmth and Christmas trees!



ABOVE: Floral Creation have given their window a Yuletide feel!



ABOVE: Mica and Marie of Jaks Hair Salon look forward to their first Christmas in their new salon.

### Creative Edge Graphics offers design solutions

**CREATIVE EDGE GRAPHICS** (CEG) is a one-stop graphics shop specialising in all aspects of graphic design, website design and development, signs, signage, canvas printing, t-shirt printing and embroidery. Whether you are looking for new signage, vehicle graphics, printed clothing, a website or company logo, CEG can cater for all your needs, offering our services to a vast range of businesses and individuals with excellent prices on all products. Now located on Island Road, Barry (off High Street.), CEG aims to offer outstanding prices with the highest quality and service possible. For more information, please go to [www.ceguk.co.uk](http://www.ceguk.co.uk)

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**High Street, Broad Street,  
Island Road & Market Street, BARRY  
...THIS IS INSPIRATIONAL CHRISTMAS SHOPPING**



**HOW BIG IS  
YOUR  
BOTTLE OF  
CHAMPERS?!**

Natasha Rees of The Wedding Fayre shop and Ceriann Bobbett of Reboutique have a champagne moment to celebrate the first Christmas in High Street of their complementary businesses.



*'Little bit off the sides, sir?'*

ABOVE: Stas of Aspro Gents Hairdressing looks forward to welcoming customers old and new for a Christmas trim.

**'Phillips' most mature work yet'  
ROAD TRIP COMEDY  
IS A LAUGH-A-MINUTE JOURNEY!**

**A**LTHOUGH Will Ferrell, Vince Vaughn et al were being lauded as the latest gaggle of comedians to break through to the mainstream several years ago, their group hasn't fared overly well in the ensuing period, with poor box office and critical reaction to their recent output.

Ironically, it is the man who oversaw one of the group's early films, *Old School*, that has been the biggest success in recent times, as 2009 saw Todd Phillips claim the crown of highest-grossing 'R' rated comedy ever with the sublime *The Hangover*.

With part two of that film in the works, Phillips' latest hits cinema screens with the writer/director's reputation never bigger.

In *Due Date*, Robert Downey Jr plays Peter, an architect whose dreams of flying out of Atlanta to LA, to witness the birth of his first-born, are shot when he's placed on the 'no-fly' list after an altercation with wannabe-actor Ethan (Zach Galifianakis).

With Ethan also heading to LA, the pair team up to make their way across the country - but, as expected, things don't run smoothly...

Given the success of *The Hangover*, it is fair to say that eyes were very much focused on where Todd Phillips went from there.

The last time he gained acclaim, for *Road Trip* and *Old School*, he found himself churning out pleasing but slight fare such as *Starsky and Hutch* and *School For Scoundrels*.

This time around, he seems to have gone the other way. For while *Due Date* just lacks the laughs that *The Hangover* earned, it is the dramatic element that makes this probably Phillips' most rounded work yet, and a sure sign the director isn't about to let his second wind of success disappear easily.

Phillips' hallmark has been broad humour that really pushes the envelope (the baby scene in *The Hangover* attests to that), and while that brand of humour is on show here, and served in hefty doses, there is a level of heart and tenderness that is comes as a welcome surprise.

Those who have been drawn to Phillips' style for the humour alone

won't feel shortchanged - it is still as lewd and capable of shocking as ever, and while peculiar, is never less than hilarious.

Taking a number of comic scenarios and flipping them, the comedy comes over so slightly from leftfield, but never feels over the top for the sake of it; heightened, certainly, but coming from realistic situations.

Despite being written by committee (Phillips is one of four writers credited with the screenplay) there is little evidence either of too many cooks spoiling the broth, or of a distilling of Phillips' tastes.

Whether it is the influence of the other writers or a conscious effort by Phillips, there is far more of an emotional heave to the screenplay, the notion of father-son relationships and family at the forefront of the more heart-felt moments of the film (a scene in a truck stop toilet perfectly embodies the notion of comedy turning to tragedy).

Such depth gives the film more a foundation on which to build and results in a far more rounded, and mature, approach.

Certainly, those versed in the works of the late, great John Hughes may well note the film's set-up bearing more than just a passing resemblance to *Planes, Trains and Automobiles*.

With Downey Jr taking the Steve Martin role and Galifianakis in the role of John Candy, to be honest, there is little variance between the two films, but it is a template that is hardly the worst to work off; and the writers do at least give it their own spin.

Similarly, Phillips' approach in the director has all the vim and vigour of his previous works, yet is shot through with a more sophisticated visual sense, the rolling, sprawling roads of America lending a wonderful ambience to the film, while the comedy portion is served well by Phillips' eye for a

**SCREEN  
TALK**



**by GARETH  
JAMIESON**

comedic set piece.

In his second team-up with the director, Zach Galifianakis treads a well-worn character path as Ethan, yet makes for such a hilarious and entertaining watch that you don't begrudge the fact he's playing a camper, less obtuse character than the one he essayed in *The Hangover*.

Dominating the film from start to finish, Galifianakis is absolutely superb here, his free-wheeling comedy sitting well in the film and getting the biggest laughs. But as well as being hugely funny, the actor shows a glimpse that he's more than just comedic talent, giving the character a more solemn side when required.

Opposite him, Robert Downey Jr is as ever enjoyable to watch, just about managing to turn a character that is more unlikely than he should be, and with a flash of wit and charisma, making him a more

appealing protagonist.

His chemistry with Galifianakis is particularly strong, important given that they are the crux on which the film hangs - and Downey Jr, never the most heavy-handed of actors, delivers a superb turn that works wonderfully well.

With a raft of pleasing cameos from the likes of Jamie Foxx, Danny McBride, Juliette Lewis and Michelle Monaghan, the film doesn't lack for talent.

However, it's the efforts of Downey Jr and Galifianakis that really hit home, the pair carrying what is a really wonderful piece of work.

Showing off a (slightly) more mature outlook, *Due Date* is Todd Phillips' most rounded and complete work to date - and, as a bonus, it is easily one of the comedies of the year!

**VERDICT** - A top drawer comedy, *Due Date* is a laugh-a-minute riot that makes for wonderful viewing.

Balancing bawdy humour with a tenderness hitherto unseen in his work, Todd Phillips just about manages to live up to the hype of *The Hangover*.

With winning turns from Zach Galifianakis and Robert Downey Jr, you'll be hard pressed to find a funnier, and touching, comedy this year.

**Highly recommended.**

**Changing Scene's  
magical show**

**CHANGING Scene Dance Company is busy with last-minute rehearsals for their forthcoming show 'Peter A Magical Adventure' which promises to be a fabulous show.**

It will be held at Barry Arts Centre, Winston Road, Barry. The show will run from Wednesday, November 17 to Saturday, November 20, starting at 7pm with a matinee on Saturday at 2pm.

Tickets for the show are £6 and are available from 029 2063 3217 (daytime) or 01446 739702 (evening).

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**Christmas Order Form**

Last Orders 18th December

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|----------------------|---------------------------|
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| Quantity             | Potato Salad              |
| York Ham             | Party Foods               |
| Roast Pork           | Quantity                  |
| Roast Turkey         | Mini Corned Beef          |
| Roast Beef           | Pasties                   |
| Deli Chicken Tikka   | Mini Cheese Pasties       |
| Tongue               | Mini Sausage Rolls        |
| Corned Beef          | (Last orders 11 December) |
| Parma Ham            | Small Onion Bahjees       |
| Selection of Salami  | Large Onion Bahjees       |
| Salads               | Quantity                  |
| Deli Coleslaw        | Vegetable Samosa          |
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**Art Central opportunity  
for local craft artists**

**ART CENTRAL, the Vale Council's prestigious art gallery, is calling for craft artists to display cabinet-sized art work during November and December.**

A spokesman said: "We're looking for makers of jewellery, miniature paintings, carved items and more, so long as the work is no larger than 30

by 25 by 30 centimetres."

If you're interested in displaying and selling your art work in the gallery please contact Tracey Harding, Art Central manager, by emailing tcharding@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or calling 01446 709805. You'll need to provide details and images of your art work, together with your CV and/or a covering letter.



# Life saving club looks back on busy year



## SOUTHERNDOWN Surf Lifesaving Club members have been praised for their hard work and enthusiasm over the a busy summer season.

Members have taken 32 junior surf life saver awards, eight NARS beach lifeguard awards, one surf lifesaver and two IRB awards.

All of the nippers achieved their surf competence awards, with some attending nipper camp where they achieved extra nipper awards.

The club would like to thank everyone who helped out with examining or training.

The club continues to produce excellent beach lifeguards, nine of whom worked on the beaches for councils along the Vale and elsewhere over the summer.

The club has also had a great competitive year, with members performing consistently well at every carnival and competition they entered.

The ranks of nipper members who are competing is growing and I was extremely pleased with their third place at the Pen y Bont nipper carnival, a best ever result.

The team was led through competitions and their great training sessions by Nipper captain Cieran Hughes, who has done a fantastic job at rallying his troops.

We are looking forward to an even better season next year as the enthusiasm for competing grows and as we have now secured funding for a new marchpast uniform in nipper rather than junior sizes.

The senior IRB team, led by IRB captain Will Hedges, competed at several events over the course of the year. At this year's Welsh IRB championships, the three teams consisting of Will Hedges, Tom Chamberlain, Tom Dauncey and Gary Pyke with patients Rachel Dauncey and Luke Aspinall, came away with a hoard of medals.

They took bronze in the teams rescue, gold in the mass rescue, bronze in the tube rescue, fourth in the single rescue. The ladies team were second overall, with a gold for the tube rescue and a silver for the mass and single rescues. The ladies team (Katie Murphy, Rachel Evans and Karen Bale) would like to thank the boys from Southerndown and Tom Parry, Chris Parry and Dai Murphy for all the hard work and training they put in to producing the first women's IRB racing team. We hope we made you proud!

The club also organised a super nipper/iron man competition for its own members. This amalgamated points scored over a run, swim, run, board paddle and long distance run around the grounds of Dunraven castle.

The winners of each section were Davydd Fardy (junior), Liam Sloan and Mali Howell (late session nippers) and Rebecca Murray and Rhys Roberts (early session nippers). Congratulations – this was a hard race that took place over many sessions.

We were also thrilled to introduce 'The Deer Run'. This is a new annual event where members run against the clock around the deer wall which surrounds the wonderful grounds of Dunraven castle. The record holders for this year's competition were: nipper boy, Joshua Brace, nipper girl, Meriel Clode. Junior boy, Davydd Fardy, junior girl, Rachel Dauncey. Senior boy, Tom Dauncey, senior girl, Rachel Evans. Masters, men – Mark Bale and master lady, Karen Bale.

The end of the year culminated in the club's annual presentation evening, where we celebrated all of our achievements with certificates, trophies and a buffet and band!

A good time was had by everyone and all members received an award for badges they had achieved during the year, attendance awards, competition awards, patrolling awards and certificate of thanks to those who helped run our club.

We would like to thank our 2009–2010 captains,



Cieran Hughes (nippers), Rebecca Bown (juniors) and Rhys Jones (seniors).

They are now helping new captains, Seren Allin (nippers), Jake Walker (juniors) and Matt Logsdon (seniors) to learn their roles before they take over in the new year.

Some of the awards presented included: Most outstanding nipper, Ffion Hughes. Patrol award, Jake Walker. Best newcomers, Ffion Hughes, Anna and Rachel Leyson and Sam Bailey. Most improved, Cerys Davies, Adam Howell and Matt Logsdon. Under-8 competitor of the year, Sam Croucher and Ffion Hughes. Under-9 competitor of the year, Rhys Roberts, Meriel Clode and Emily Jenkins. Under-10 competitor of the year, Mali Howell and Rowan Allin. Under-11 competitor of the year, Seren Allin and Cieran Hughes. Under-12 competitor of the year, Sophia Harpin and Joshua Brace. Under-13 competitor of the year, Toby Walker and Annabel Smith. Junior competitor of the year, Jake Walker, Luke Aspinall and Rachel Dauncey. Senior competitor of the year, Will Hedges, Tom Chamberlain and Rachel Evans. Master competitor of the year, Gary Pyke and Karen Bale. Overall competitor of the year, Seren Allin. Powercraft award, Tom Chamberlain. 'IRB' award, Tom and Rachel Dauncey.

KAREN BALE, CLUB CHAIRMAN





NEWS FROM 372 (BARRY) SQUADRON AIR TRAINING CORPS

# Annual presentation evening celebrates the Barry Air Cadets' successful year

**THE 372 (Barry) Squadron, Air Training Corps have recently held their annual presentation evening – a celebration of the achievements of the Cadets over the last 12 months.**

Many friends and relatives of the Cadets attended what turned out to be a very enjoyable evening.

The main guests were: Wing Commander Lyndon Jones (Officer Commanding No 4 School of Technical Training), Superintendent Dave Jay (Barry Police), Flight Lieutenants Dave Crandon and John Greenow (former Commanding Officers 372 Squadron) and Mrs Rose Fido.

The evening began with a welcome speech from Flight Lieutenant Jason Horton, who outlined the many exciting activities, challenges and opportunities.

The last 12 months has seen Cadets travel to the Brecon Beacons, Black Mountains and the Neath Valleys; undertaking expeditions, hill walking and kayaking.

The Cadets have

undertaken a wide variety of sports including: hockey, netball, swimming, football, rugby, athletics and circuit training.

The Squadron has supported many organisations within the community including the Royal Air Forces Association and the Royal British Legion, raising over £5500 during the last 12 months.

The Cadets have also been flying, gliding, shooting, attending camps at RAF stations, leadership courses and also visited the battlefields of Ypres (Belgium) and the Somme (France).

The main trophy winners were: Cadet Adam Wood – Cadet of the Year; Corporal Peter Pemberton – Sportsman of the Year; Corporal Eloise Johnson – Musician of the Year; Sergeant Carl Chaplin – Filt Lt Dave Crandon Challenge Shield; Cadet Leah Veale – Most Promising New Cadet.

The final act of the evening saw Wing Commander Jones promote Adam Wood to Corporal and Peter Pemberton and Megan Palmer-Wood to Sergeant.

Flight Lieutenant Jason Horton said: Yet



*Cpl Peter Pemberton receiving Sportsman of Year award from Flying Officer Mike Fowler.*

again, the Cadets have worked hard and played hard during the last 12 months. While the Cadets experience amazing activities such as flying, gliding and shooting opportunities, they also work hard for their local community as well. I am immensely proud of all the Cadets on the Squadron."

The Squadron band performed for the assembled guests and parents, demonstrating why it is one of the premier bands in the Air Training Corps. The Cadets now return to an action-packed training winter programme of flying, gliding, shooting, team building exercises, sport, adventurous training and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 (Barry) Squadron has vacancies for boys and girls between 13-18 years old. The Squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm-9.30pm, behind Adams Funeral Parlour. Telephone 01446 747734 or email oc.372@air-cadets.org for more information about the Air Training Corps or joining the Squadron.



*Promotions Filt Lieut Jason Horton, Sgt Megan Palmer-Wood, Cpl Adam Wood, Sgt Peter Pemberton and Wing Commander Lyndon Jones.*



*Rose Fido presenting Cadet of Year trophy to Adam Wood.*



*Cadet Leah Veale receiving Most Promising New Cadet award from Wing Commander Lyndon Jones.*

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# Inspirational Homes

A WINTER UPDATE FROM THE FONMON APIARY

## Honeycomb – and bee rescue from drain in a Penarth garden!

**E**XTERNAL activity of bees is less noticeable now the variable weather conditions and the shorter days are curtailing any foraging flights.

At present, I have nine hives on site and should they get through the winter I hope to be prepared to take advantage of the inevitable oil seed rape crop come next year.

Some 10 hives could have been on site as Barbara and I

were called out to a garden in Penarth on October 29 by a lady who had things going in and out of a drain in her garden. These things were honeybees and they were well established in the drain; in fact, we were informed that they had been there for some months. The drain was not in use, hence the acceptance of it as a home by the bees.

A faulty lid had provided an entrance for the bees and gently lifting the lid did indeed confirm that they had been there for some time.

Honeycomb had been

built from top to bottom and was attached to the side walls in places. What to do?

Our approach was to get a brood box into which we could and did place the honeycomb. This activity did disturb the bees, but we were able to transfer the honeycomb and most of the bees into the box without too much fuss.

The lid was propped up with a piece of timber to enable us to cut the attached comb free and remove the lid completely.

The honeycomb was kept vertical using wooden strips and wooden frames so as not to end up with bees and comb in a heap within the brood box.

Many bees were still coming and going while we were moving the comb, but

within a short time we had completed the job. Some remnants of honeycomb remained in the drain and, of course, bees still were going into what had been their home.

Nonetheless, the lid of the drain was replaced and our brood box put on top of it where it was to remain over night.

Given that the Queen bee was in our box, come the next day all of the bees should be in with her. This was indeed the case on our return the next day. Bees were happily using the new home (brood box) so we left things as they were until evening and this allowed us to remove the bees to a new site without leaving any behind.

All traces of wax and honeycomb were removed from the drain before we even-

tually left Penarth.

The rescued bees are now at Dyffryn Gardens' Apiary. It was intended to establish them at Fonmon but Dyffryn can easily accommodate another hive and there will be no shortage of forage for them should they get through the winter.

They have been given a feed of syrup (liquid sugar) and they will be provided with more if conditions allow.

Although the bees are in a brood box that is not as it really should be; though they do stand a better chance of survival than they would have had they remained in that drain.

On November 12, Barbara and I went to a property in St Mellons area where bees were in a large beech tree which was due to come down. Can we save them? I will let you know.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

## 'Keep council house cash in Wales' says Vale's Plaid candidate

**T**HE PLAID CYMRU candidate for the Vale, Dr Ian Johnson, has called on the Vale Council to concentrate on changing UK Government rules on council housing, rather than transfer Vale council houses to the private sector.

Under a ruling from the Treasury in Whitehall, profits from council house rents are sent to London, rather than used to refurbish or improve council houses in the Vale.

"Recently published Freedom of Information figures show that the Vale has returned £56m in cash terms to the Treasury since 1999," Dr Johnson said.

"Since 1999, the Vale of Glamorgan has sent more than £56m to London when it should have been spent on housing in the Vale.

"That money would have given us a better quality of council housing, as well as improving the local economy as construction firms and builders in the Vale

would have benefited," he insisted.

"It is amazing that Labour in Wales have refused to accept their responsibility for this housing scandal - as in England they changed the scheme as far back as 2000.

"With a vote due

soon on the transfer of council houses in the Vale into the private sector, I am calling on the Conservative Vale Council to join Plaid Cymru's campaign to keep this money in Wales.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21)

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**Tip - Scrape cold excess fat and oil into containers and throw away.**

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**Tip - Don't be too tight on water usage and don't over use washing powder.**

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## 'Housing rules should change' says an Assembly candidate

(CONTINUED  
FROM PAGE 20)

"I believe that any right-minded council, in this time of financial pressure due to the cuts being enforced from London, should

put pressure on their MP and the Con-Dem government in London to scrap what's called the 'Housing Revenue Account Subsidy Scheme' for Wales, as they have already promised to do for England. That money should

then be used wisely by local authorities, such as the Vale Council, to invest and improve social housing and end the need for stock transfer," Dr Johnson concluded.

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between two families, long standing residents in the Vale, and with depots in Carmarthenshire, as well as Llantwit Major. The business offers all types of tree services in the region, specialising in hardwoods, overgrown pines and uncontrolled hedge growth.

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**ORDERS** placed between November 8 and December 17 with Future Window Solutions, will be entered into our FREE prize draw – for the chance to win a luxury food hamper – which will be given to a lucky winner and announced in The GEM.

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are offering free underfloor heating or free two-seater and three seater settee subject to availability. Remember, we won't be beaten on price or our commitment to you!

Craig Harewood, the proprietor of Future Window Solutions, would like to thank all his customers for their support, whether established clients or new ones.

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# Vale Council considers whether to take on role of parking rules enforcer

**THE Vale Council is considering whether to apply to the Welsh Assembly Government for a transfer of parking enforcement from the police to itself.**

Plaid regional AM Chris Franks has accused the Vale Council of letting down residents over the enforcement of parking.

He said that with no traffic wardens to enforce parking in the Vale motorists were staying beyond the two-hour restriction in Merthyr Street, Barry, and other parking bays.

Mr Franks said the police told Barry town councillor Barry Shaw

## REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

that although there were no traffic wardens in the Vale they did, where possible, issue fixed penalty notices to offenders.

The AM said: "The Vale Council have been talking for a long time about taking over enforcement of parking as they have done in Cardiff.

"But to date, they still have not resolved this situation. Plaid feels the council is shirking its responsibilities. Why can't the authority do its job properly?"

"The result is that the Vale is left without traffic wardens and the only enforcement can be by

the police, but they don't have the time or resources to check that drivers are not abusing the time limits in bays across Barry."

Miles Punter, head of visible services at the Vale Council, emphasised that the enforcement of parking rules remained the responsibility of the police regardless of their decision to withdraw the traffic warden service.

He revealed: "The Vale Council is currently considering whether to apply to the Welsh Assembly Government for the necessary powers to transfer the enforcement role from the police to the council.

"In larger city areas, such as Cardiff and Swansea, the decision to transfer powers is more attractive due to the larger potential for income generation, which is commensurate to the number of parking restrictions and vehicles that are active within a particular locality.

"The council has engaged consultants who have undertaken an initial feasibility study for the transfer of the parking enforcement function, and this has indicated that our control of parking enforcement will, at best, break even and at worst, could cost the council money.

"In addition there are set-up fees for the transfer which are estimated to be in excess of £200k. There is little likelihood of this initial investment being recovered by on-

street parking enforcement fines alone.

"The council's cabinet will be requested to consider the council's position further, later in this financial year, when a decision will be taken whether to progress with the transfer or to continue to rely on police officers and police community support officers to undertake the parking enforcement role.

"Officers have taken the decision not to report this matter to elected members for a decision until after the Welsh Assembly Government announce the effect on the Vale of Glamorgan's future finances of the Westminster Government's comprehensive spending review."

Mr Punter went on: "It is disappointing that the council seems to be receiving criticism in respect to this matter as we are currently in a similar position to authorities such as Bridgend and Rhondda Cynon Taff, who also do not benefit from the significant traffic movements that are common to large cities such as Cardiff and Swansea.

"As readers will no doubt be aware, all councils will be faced with difficult financial decisions over the forthcoming years and our elected members will quite rightly have to balance the need and costs of taking on this new service with our other significant existing service priorities."

## Charities praised in Senedd



**ABOVE: From Vale People First were: Chris Powers, Ben Taylor, Joanna Hurst, Tim Brett, Michael Owen, and Professor Ian Diamond.**

**VALE People First and Bridge Mentoring Plus, two local charities, travelled to the National Assembly recently for a reception to celebrate the work of Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales and the charities it supports in Wales.**

More than 45 charities and sector organisations from all over Wales attended the event to mark the work that local and national charities, supported by the Foundation, do to improve the life chances of disadvantaged people across Wales.

Bridgend was represented by Bridge

Mentoring Plus, who provide a one-to-one mentoring service for 10-25 year old disadvantaged young people throughout the Borough of Bridgend.

Guests heard from Tim Brett, the project manager at Vale People First, a self advocacy charity, for and led by people with a learning disability, in the Vale.

Tim described how the grant from the foundation had helped the charity to develop their work over two years to enable people with learning disabilities to play an active role in their communities.

Michael Owen, one of the charity's service users, then spoke about and demonstrated how important the charity's

work is, as it enables people with a learning disability to become self-reliant and speak for themselves.

The reception received cross-party support from David Melding

AM, Jenny Randerson AM, Janice Gregory AM and Dr Dai Lloyd AM and was attended by Assembly Members (AMs).

## More lucky GEM (stamp) winnie-ers!

**THE WINNERS of Winnie The Pooh stamps in our recent competition were:**

Anne Baxter, St Athan; Mrs C Evans, Cwmbran; Mrs A Stock, Treos; Maureen Parry, Cardiff; Joanne Hurst, Ely; Mrs GR Williams, Pyle; Miss EA James, Ogmog Vale; Claire Murphy, Rhosce Point; D Ingall, Brackla; Rebecca Hugh, Ely; Clenys Taylor, North Cornelly; AE Evans, Cowbridge; R Perryman-Smalley, Dinas Powys; Mrs A King, Pencoed; Norma Webb, Barry; Mrs S Smith, Cowbridge; Dawn Stevens, Barry; C Spear, Penarth; Mr Ray Williams, Llanblethian.

**Congratulations to you all! Watch out for more competitions in The GEM.**

## Regional AM's 'deep concern' on orthopaedic waiting times

**REGIONAL AM Andrew R T Davies has voiced "deep concern" after it was revealed that nearly 1,000 patients have been waiting for orthopaedic treatment for over nine months.**

The shadow health minister, and regional AM for

South Wales Central said: "Naturally it concerns me that patients are waiting as long as this and it is absolutely essential that health boards get on top of this matter as quickly as possible."

He pointed out that the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board has been placed under special measures after it became apparent that the orthopaedic department of the hospital was overwhelmed and far behind its target set out by the Welsh Assembly Government.

Experts had predicted that it could take as much as a year before they fall within the 36-week maximum referral to treatment target.

"It is vital that all decisions are driven by clinical considerations first, and financial ones second. The message coming from the LHB is that they are recruiting more consultants, nurses and junior doctors to manage this problem and yet I fear that the Health Minister's refusal to protect the NHS budget is making this high on impossible," he claimed.

**The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals in their charge at Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone: 01656 725219)**

## Paddy needs a good home...

**THIS week, a spokeswoman highlights Paddy, a Boxer cross.**

He is a sweet and sensitive dog with a lovely nature. He can be worried in new environments and just needs a bit of time to get to know people - then you will see what a lovely, sweet dog he is!

He gets on with other dogs and has lived with a female dog. He is house-trained and fine when



left for a few hours.

He will suit someone who has owned dogs before, and he can live with children eight years and over.

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (BARRY AREA) (PROHIBITION OF ACCESS) (ALLEYGATING - TIDY TOWNS) ORDER 2010

Notice is given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Sections 1 & 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), Highways Act 1980 section 129A and of all other enabling powers, proposes to make an Order, for the purpose specified in section 1(f), the general effect of which is described in the schedule below.

1. Full details of the proposal to include a copy of the proposed order and plans may be inspected at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry and the address shown below during normal office hours, and, any objection you may have to this proposal must be submitted to the Head of Visible Services (Ref: TT/BM/01-03) in writing by 3rd December 2010 and must contain the grounds upon which you object.

2. Persons objecting to the proposed Order are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposed Order open to public inspection.

Except as provided by the proposed order:-

3. No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to proceed, at any time, along the service lanes specified in the schedule below.

4. No person shall proceed on foot or pedal cycle, at any time, along the service lanes specified in the schedule below.

### SCHEDULE

The lengths of Service Lanes to be restricted are:

**Rear Lane between 11 and 23 Trinity Street  
Rear Lane between 38 and 78 Princes Street  
Rear Lane behind 36 Princes Street**

Un-adopted Lanes

**Rear Lane between 8 and 24 Salisbury Road  
Rear Lane between 2 and 24 Victoria Road  
Rear Lane between 1 and 16 Dyfrig Street**

Dated this 11th day of November 2010

Head of Visible Services  
Vale of Glamorgan Council  
The Alps, Wenvoe CF5 6AA



## GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2010 (GWRTHOD MYNEDIAD YN ARDAL Y BARRI) (CODI GATIAU PEN LńN - TREFI TACLUS)

Hysbysir trwy hyn y bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adranau 1 a 2 o Ddeddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddiwgiedig), Adran 129A o Ddeddf Prifffyrdd 1980 ac yn unol â phob p. er galluogi arall, yn gwneud Gorchymyn i'r diben a nodwyd yn adran 1(f) gan gael yr effaith gyffredinol a ddisgrifiwyd yn yr atodlen isod.

1. Cewch weld y cynnyg cyfan, gan gynnwys copi o'r gorchymyn a'r cynlluniau a gynnigwyd, yn Swyddffeydd Dinesig Heol Holton y Barri a'r cyfeiriad isod, yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol. Dylech gyfeirio unrhyw wrthwynebiad sydd gennych i'r cynnig i Bennaeth Gwasanaethau Gweladwy (Cyf.TT/BM/01-03) ar ffurf llythyr erbyn 3 Rhagfyr 2010, gan egluro'ch rhesymau dros ei wrthwynebu.

2. Os oes gennych wrthwynebiad i'r Gorchymyn, cofiwch fod gan y cyhoedd hawl o dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol (Hawl i Wybodaeth) 1985 i weld unrhyw sylwadau sy'n cael eu gwneud, a bod dyletswydd gyfreithiol ar y cyngor i ddarparu ar gyfer hynny.

Ac eithrio fel y'i darperir gan y gorchymyn dan sylw:-

3. Ni fydd hawl i neb yrru na pheri i neb arall yrru unrhyw gerbyd ar unrhyw adeg ar hyd y lonydd gwasanaeth y sonnir amdanynt yn yr atodlen isod.

4. Ni fydd hawl i neb gerdded na seiclo ar unrhyw adeg ar hyd y lonydd gwasanaeth y sonnir amdanynt yn yr atodlen isod.

### ATODLEN

Dyma'r lonydd gwasanaeth y bwriadwn eu cael:

**Y lôn gefn rhwng 11 a 23 Trinity Street  
Y lôn gefn rhwng 38 a 78 Princes Street  
Y lôn gefn y tu ôl i 36 Princes Street**

Lonydd na fyddant fel arfer yng ngofal y cyngor

**Y lôn gefn rhwng 8 a 24 Salisbury Road  
Y lôn gefn rhwng 2 a 24 Victoria Road  
Y lôn gefn rhwng 1 ac 16 Dyfrig Street**

Dyddiedig 11 Hydref 2010

M Punter  
Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Gweladwy  
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28th Nov - REINDEER SUNDAY / 2nd Dec - CANDLELIGHT THURSDAY

# COWBRIDGE

## A Christmas Winter Wonderland

SPECIAL FOUR-PAGE GEM FEATURE



'A LOVELY SELECTION OF SHOPS WHERE GIFTS ABOUND!'

# Christmas in Cowbridge is the most wonderful time of the year!

**COWBRIDGE** is one of those towns that does Christmas in a big way – real reindeer, candle-light shopping, Christmas tree festival – the works.

And let's face it, Cowbridge with its quirky little alleyways,

Georgian architecture and medieval town walls has a wonderful ambience that lends itself to our notions of Christmas Past – with or without Scrooge. Cowbridge is a fabulous place to do your Christmas shopping. No huge, overheated chain stores packed to the gulleys with bustling shoppers.

No, we have a plethora of individually owned shops where you can browse at leisure and be attended to either by helpful staff or, very often, the owners.

Cowbridge traders pride themselves on knowing their customers and doing everything they can to cater for their needs.

The town has a lovely selection of shops. Gifts abound – books, perfume, lingerie, shoes, bags, accessories, jewellery, toys, antiques, craft items, china and ornaments.

I would defy anyone to be unable to buy a suitable present for anyone on their list – both male and female of every age.

And the clothes shops also provide plenty of choice if you are looking for that sexy, sparkly number to wow everyone at the office party or to just look gorgeous at a grand ball.

One trader looking forward to Christmas is Philippa Tuckey who owns the Cocoa and Co chocolate shop, located in the alley leading to the Wool Barn.

Philippa has worked in the shop since it opened ten years ago but took over when the previous owners retired.

She sells a wide range of hand made

by **JAYNE ISAAC**

sweets and chocolates made by a variety of small makers around the area.

She said that at Christmas, she stocks up on stocking fillers in the shape of snowmen, Father Christmas or other seasonal figures. She also has lovely chocolates, ideal for older customers who enjoy the luxury of hand made heaven!

"Christmas is usually very busy and I hope it will be the same this year," she said. "It's lovely to see the children coming and looking at our range. It's like Aladdin's cave for them."

Cowbridge has a number of good quality food shops offering meat, fruit and vegetables, baked items and delicatessen.

Plans to bring a new Waitrose food store to the town have certainly set people talking.

At the moment, they are just that – plans. But most traders are in favour because it will bring people into the town and create spin-off business for other shops.

One of the newest shops in town is Happy Days located in extensive premises at the back of the Duke of Wellington.

Here, Nicole Burnett and Sarah Legg have created a shoppers' paradise with a variety of vintage and craft items on sale.

Nicole said that they only opened in September, having started out initially with a stand at the antique centre.

"We wanted somewhere bigger and this site was ideal," she said. "We already have 16 stands. They are all different and they all have strong elements

of crafts. We also have some specialist dealers selling things like vintage clothes and furs."

Nicole and Sarah specialise in furniture and home items like glass, china and ornaments.

"We are a sort of vintage Ikea," she said.

"There are Welsh blankets, crocheted throws, lace and embroidered tablecloths, old china, 1930s glass and the rest."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 24)



ABOVE: Nicole Burnett and Sarah Legg of Happy Days vintage shop holding up some of their knitted toys which are on sale.

## MUGHAL Emperor of Cowbridge

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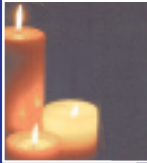
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28th Nov - REINDEER SUNDAY / 2nd Dec - CANDLELIGHT THURSDAY

# COWBRIDGE

## A Christmas Winter Wonderland

SPECIAL FOUR-PAGE GEM FEATURE



## Good causes will benefit from the Christmas card shop!

**A** CHARITY card shop which brings together more than 30 local and national charities is open in Cowbridge.

The Cards for Good Causes shop is in Old Hall and is run by an umbrella organisation set up by 25 major British and international charities in 1959.

The organisation has shops all over the country and has been running the one in Cowbridge for 20 years.

Everyone working in the shop is voluntary and the joint managers are Isobel Jenkins and Kay Newham. They organise a rota of volunteers to come in and staff it.

"If we have a branch of a charity whose cards we are selling, they send their own people to help out on a set day," said Mrs Jenkins.

"Other than that, we have a list

of people who are willing to come in and work throughout the week. It is a very successful operation."

The shop has built up a regular clientele over the years and draws people from all over south Wales. The nearest shops are in Cardiff and Swansea.

"We also offer a very wide range of bi-lingual and Welsh cards," said Mrs Newham.

"We get a lot of Welsh speakers coming here, who are pleased to have a good choice of cards. Many of the charities now offer Welsh and English versions of their cards."

The shop opened on the weekend of the food festival and will remain open until December 15. It is open six days a week from 10am to 4pm.

It also sells calendars, gift tags and other Christmas items.



ABOVE: Philippa Tuckey in her chocolate shop Cocoa and Co, with some of her Christmas goodies.

### (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23)

It would be high on impossible to go into this store and not see something either that you like or that evokes very strong memories of childhood. It's a real trip down memory lane.

One of those with a stand is Sue Mayo who has a knitting business.

She moved to Wales recently, met Sarah and Nicole and was persuaded to start her own business selling hand dyed wool.

And as a way of making friends, Sue

has started a knitting group that meets every Monday afternoon from 1pm to 3pm. The members come from around the Vale and many did not know each other before.

They enjoy tea, cakes and sandwiches provided in the refreshment area of the shop and also enjoy having a chat. "People come to knit, others just want a chat and that's fine," said Sue.

"It's open to everyone and if anybody wants to learn to knit, I would be willing to give them a helping hand. It's a great way to make new friends."



ABOVE: (left to right): Christine Hughes and Mary Wallis in the Cards for Good Causes charity shop.

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- 11.00am** Participating shops open in the town, live music and entertainment including a fun fair in the town all day
- 11.30am** Children who wish to join parade, meet at Police station in nativity fancy dress
- 12 noon** Reindeer Parade down the main high street
- 2.00pm** Reindeer behind town hall for all to see and Father Christmas Grotto open in Town Hall
- 5.00pm** Lucy and Rhodri Owen officially turn on the Christmas Lights sponsored by Sort and Save Recycling

Get your woolly hats and gloves, get into the Christmas spirit and join us in Cowbridge for the festivities!  
Cowbridge by Candlelight late night shopping until 7.30pm - Thursday 2nd December  
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28th Nov - REINDEER SUNDAY / 2nd Dec - CANDLELIGHT THURSDAY

# COWBRIDGE

## A Christmas Winter Wonderland

SPECIAL FOUR-PAGE GEM FEATURE



ABOVE:

Last year's Christmas Tree Festival was another popular event in Cowbridge - this year organisers are expecting up to 50 trees!

SEE OVER FOR NEWS ON THIS YEAR'S REINDEER PARADE, A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR, AND A LOOK AT THE HIDDEN GEMS OF THE TOWN

## 'UP TO 50 TREES ARE EXPECTED'

# The annual Cowbridge Christmas Tree Festival offers plenty of family joy

'O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, how lovely are your branches.'

THIS popular carol has been sung for generations, but have you ever wondered where the tradition of 'lovely branches' came from? The answer is, Germany.

As far back as the 16th century, glass tree ornaments in the shape of fruit and nuts, lined with mercury for a silvery effect were produced for tree decoration.

Tinsel was made from thin strips of silver, much like our modern day Lametta. Tallow candles were used as Christmas tree lights.

At the Cowbridge Christmas Tree Festival, (November 26 - 28) you will have a chance to see more than 50 decorated trees and enjoy a variety of festive entertainment.

Holy Cross Parish Church, Cowbridge, is hosting the festival, which begins on Friday November 26, from 10.30am to 5pm. It continues in the evening at 7.30pm with

a concert by the Cowbridge Male Voice Choir (tickets £7.50.)

Doors open on Saturday, at 10am-5pm; and Sunday at 12pm-4pm. Father Christmas will be there in his brand new sleigh for the children to come and talk to him. Admission is £3 (free entry for children under age of 11).

Refreshments will be served throughout the festival and a Christmas Shop stocking preserves, cakes, cards and craft items will be available.

During Saturday morning, children from St Brides Major Church in Wales School will be singing Christmas songs, and in the afternoon, Cowbridge Hand Bell Ringers will perform. A barbecue will be on offer in the church garden on Saturday and Sunday (from 11.30am-4pm).

So, why not come along and join in the Cowbridge 2010 Christmas Tree Festival?

'O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, your beauty green will teach me.'

For further details/enquiries please call 01446 772771. KATE HIBBERT

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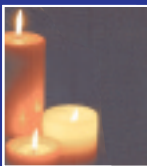
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28th Nov - REINDEER SUNDAY / 2nd Dec - CANDLELIGHT THURSDAY

# COWBRIDGE

## A Christmas Winter Wonderland

SPECIAL FOUR-PAGE GEM FEATURE



## HIDDEN GEMS OF OLD COWBRIDGE TOWN!

ONE of the delights of shopping in Cowbridge is that along every lane, alley or byway, there are quirky shops that vie for your attention and offer lots of unique products...



THE WOOL BARN



JENSEN SPORTS



ABOVE:  
Pebble -  
located next  
to the town  
hall



THE BEEHIVE



AMICI

## Mayor looks forward to this special time of year

**T**he Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Len Taylor, is looking forward to Christmas – although it is probably the busiest time of the year for the town's first citizen.

"It all happens in Cowbridge at Christmas," he said. "Everyone joins in and there's plenty of good cheer around."

Mr Taylor has been involved with the Christmas Tree festival for many years as a member of Rotary.

"It's now very well established," he said. "But it entails a lot of work for church members and others and we should remember that as we enter Holy Cross and see such a wonderful spectacle of colour."

He is looking forward to the grand concert linked to the festival; which this year features Cowbridge Male Voice Choir and Noteworthy – a mixed choir from Maesteg.

The concert is staged on Friday November 26 at the church at 7.30pm.

Proceeds from the festival this year will be shared between the church and the British Heart Foundation.

Another event in the mayor's diary is the reindeer parade on November 28.

"This is a wonderful event which draws in many thousands of people from all over south Wales," he said.

The Town Council plays an active part in this event and a rostrum is erected outside the Town Hall which acts as a focal point for the day's activities and where music is played.

"I also attended the official opening this week of the Cowbridge Art Society exhibition at the library and there was a wonderful display of paintings and drawings there."

"Cowbridge has a strong community spirit and Christmas seems to bring it out all the more – you could say with bells on!" the Mayor added.

## Reindeer are on their way!

**T**HE reindeer are back! No, that's not the cry of the native Sami people of Lapland as they see the herds returning from the frozen arctic wastes, but of the children of Cowbridge and surrounding districts!

The Santa parade in the town will once again feature real, reindeer pulling Father Christmas in his sleigh, led as usual by Rudolph.

This event is now firmly established in the town's calendar and it draws in hundreds of people even in the poorest weather.

This year, the event is on Sunday, November 28 and is staged to mark the switching on of the town's Christmas lights.

The Santa parade will set off as usual from the police station at 12 noon.

It will make its way through town and up to Eastgate where it turns around and heads back into town, stopping at the Town Hall where Santa will enter his grotto.

There will be an afternoon of entertainment at the rostrum before Lucy and Rhodri Owen of BBC Wales will switch on the lights at 5.15pm.

The reindeer parade is organised and paid for by the Chamber of Trade and the president, Alun John, said that it was a way for the traders to thank cus-

tomers for their support throughout the year.

A collection is made during the parade by members of Llantwit and Cowbridge Lions but all the money goes to their charities – none of it is used to cover the costs of the parade.

The chamber receives some grants from the Vale Council to offset part of the costs involved.

Mr John said that all the shops were due to open, as well as the cafés and restaurants, so that people could stay for the day to do their Christmas shopping and enjoy a cup of tea or a meal.

Shops will then open every Sunday in the run-up to Christmas.

"I hope that people will support us," he added.

"We are trying to give people a good shopping experience and we are aware that Sunday is now a normal shopping day for most people."

"Many of our shops open every Sunday during the year and it's important that shoppers visiting the town before Christmas enjoy a wide range of shops."



• See you soon,  
boys and girls!  
Santa & Rudolph  
xxxx

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### CHRISTMAS 2010

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Nov 28th | Advent Sunday Songs of Praise 10.30 am followed by Reindeer and Nativity parade<br>Advent carol service 6 pm   |
| Dec 12th | Gift Sunday service 10.30 am – donations of gifts for Cardiff Women's Aid, mothers and children  |
| Dec 19th | Nativity play and Junior Church Christmas presentation 10.30 am  |
| Dec 19th | Carols by Candlelight 6 pm with Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg   |
| Dec 22nd | Carols in the Castle. Torchlight procession with donkey from Cowbridge cattle market at 6.30 pm to St Quentin's Castle for carols, readings and refreshments |
| Dec 24th | Christmas Eve meditation, music and communion 6.30 pm  |
| Dec 25th | Christmas Day Family Worship and Crib Service 10 am  |
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## 'Don't forget the Merchant seamen'

WHILE thousands of pounds have been given to 'The Poppy Appeal' - for the Army, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force - there is nothing for the Merchant Navy.

Barry is a town whose Merchant seamen, according to Winston Churchill, saved Britain in World War Two. I quote "...The only thing that frightened me during the War was the U-boat peril in the Battle of the Atlantic".

The Royal British Legion has set up its stalls in all the large stores, with no mention or sign of the Merchant Navy in a town where 95 per cent of its men went to sea in Barry ships. Could I ask you to spare a thought for them today?

Or how about the Rose Schiaffino?

Originally built in WW1, captured from the French in 1941 and brought to Britain. She was old, small and totally unfit for the Atlantic in winter. She was sent

from Barry with coal and not much thought was given to the crew of 37 plus 4 gunners - 29 of the crew were over 40, including two over 50, and two over 60 years of age! There was one boy of 15 and one of 16.

She broke down twice as she struggled across to Newfoundland, discharged her coal and loaded iron-ore in Wabana, Conception Bay. She left Wabana and was torpedoed on November 3, 1941. Her cargo of iron-ore meant she sank in seconds.

The boy of 16 was Charles Burman Stiff; the second of Mrs Stiff's sons to die on iron-ore ships. William George, aged 19, was lost on the *Magdalena* on September 18, 1940. Joseph Sydney was lost on the *Baron Newlands* on the March 16, 1942. Hard to bear for Mrs Stiff. Charles would have been 85 now.

Worth a poppy? I had just left the ship *Bereby* in Liverpool, survived the War, and have had a happy life.

David Simpson, Barry

## Bonvilston's celebration

THE villagers of Bonvilston were entertained to a wonderful party on November 5 with a magnificent bonfire and endless display of fireworks, followed by a disco.

It was given, as last year, by Linda and Mike Miller and Martin Evans and, although there was no charge, a bucket collection raised over £200 for Bonvilston Reading Room. Many thanks to them and to the other Bonvilston contractors who assisted them.

Mary Provis, Bonvilston

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We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (in certain circumstances), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

## 'Plenty of space for all at the St Athan site'

FOLLOWING the recent decision to scrap the re-development at MoD St Athan, I feel that something has to be said.

As a Blow-in, recently, from the Hants/Surrey border, it is with sadness that I read about this decision. We had all this with the demise of the Royal Aircraft Establishment Farnborough nearly 20 years ago.

Still, as with all things like this, if government is involved it will always be badly thought-out and under-funded. As with Farnborough, let us now attract private investment.

At one point in the discussions about Farnborough, the Sultan of Brunei, one of the

world's richest men and a visionary, was at the table because he wanted to buy the site et al to turn it into a centre of excellence for aircraft and related skills, but for reasons various, mostly political, this did not happen.

The site now is run by TAG, the international timepiece company and is used for executive jets and also the airshow, which brings in many jobs etc.

I suspect St Athan will now fall to a property company, to build houses for people who will be looking for work.

WHERE?

St Athan is, sadly, a wonderful blank canvas for the future that could be moulded to attract foreign investment for all skills and become what it should be; a place where people will be proud to work and train

for many skills and a starting point for small business, which WILL provide income and security for all the futures in the area.

Look how Germany has fared after the war with a blank canvas. If we do not grab this golden chance, you can say goodbye to any future and hello to the dole queue and a brain drain similar to the early 1970s.

There is plenty of space at that site for ALL parties and no land grabbing is required by anyone.

If we, as a country, do not go back to earning a living and soon, we shall be the overweight, spotty youth of Europe, who follows the school bully around and gets kicked for his trouble.

Steve Hollands, Rhosce

## FELIX (THE CAT) 'MIAOWS' OUT ON BEHALF OF HIS MOGGY FRIENDS

MY name is Felix, the cat, and having read the letter in a recent issue of The GEM about my fellow cats, I feel I should write to you and complain about humans.

Where can I begin? Humans behave as if this is their planet and treat all other creatures as inferior. They build

roads, houses, factories and industry wherever they please, destroying natural habitat and wiping out whole species.

They devour the earth's resources as though there is no tomorrow. They eat the flesh of animals and fowl and keep countless creatures in cages.

To learn about just how awfully humans treat animals, I would invite all humans to

watch the film *Earthlings* at: <http://www.earthlings.com>

Humans love to have gardens with 'pretty' flowers. Do any of them stop and think about the flora and fauna that used to live in the area they now call a 'garden'? Are any of them aware that the downward spiral of most wild creatures is due to human activity?

Those humans who complain about cats being carnivores - are they vegetarian, or do they also kill animals for food?

Do they ever stop and think about where their meat has come from, the amount of suffering caused, so they can enjoy a cheap lamb chop or taste a Christmas dinner?

If humans want to put out food for birds, why do they not position the bird table to make it very hard for us cats to reach? My human partner regularly feeds the birds and I can't catch

them.

On the point of pooping, at least us felines bury our waste. My human friend constantly complains to me about dog faeces on pavements. Nothing is done about that.

Now for a word about us cats. Cats are quiet, clean and respectable. We are gentle and loving to suitable humans.

One special cat (unfortunately no longer with us) performed an extraordinary miracle in that he made emotional contact with an autistic man, something humans were unable to do.

So, 'non-cat owners', spare a thought for other people less fortunate than yourselves.

The elderly, the lonely, the disabled and the downright soft-hearted.

Us cats are right there performing a vital befriending service, and at little cost too. Show us away from your gardens if you must, but live and let live and leave us be.

From Felix (the cat)

## 'Too many cats'

I FEEL as if I must add to the recent letter on cats. I have children, grandchildren and also great grandchildren who simply enjoy my spacious gardens and lawns.

I'm not talking about the occasional cat in the street, but there are packs in my locality who are frightening in numbers.

There are houses in my area that possess between six to eight and even up to 10 per household.

Can you imagine the smells, the ruining of lawns and flower beds, the killing of birds of prey etc?

People who shelter that number of cats are dramatically short of brain power.

(Name and address supplied)

## No thought for the poor animals

I AM sitting here on Friday, November 5, listening to what sounds like a war zone going on in the streets around me.

My dogs are huddled up against me, shaking as the bangs go on and on. Not even the rain is stopping these selfish people who persist in having fireworks at home, even though there is a very good display at Barry Island each year.

They have no thought for the animals in the locality who suffer each year, some of whom have to be sedated, who cannot go out to the gar-

den and cower in the smallest space they can find.

It is time that the selling of fireworks to members of the public was banned and only those people licenced to hold public displays should be able to obtain them.

These are explosives and as such should be seen as dangerous, too dangerous for anyone who fancies to buy them.

I am sure I am not the only pet owner that is having the same problem tonight and would ask those who want to see fireworks, to think of the animals next year and go to an organised display.

G Darling, Barry

## 'I am working to improve park'

IN reply to Mr Jeff Heathfield, regarding the Iola Park in Treharne: I share his concerns about the lack of investment in the park in recent years and that is why I am working with Gibbonsdown and Court Communities First Partnership and the Vale of Glamorgan Council, to develop a bid to the Barry Strategic Regeneration Board to help regenerate the park.

I hope that the bid will go to the regeneration board meeting in December. I cannot, of course, prejudice the outcome of the bid, but I do hope that it will be approved and will do everything I can to support the plans for this much-needed community facility.

As the Labour Vale councillor for Court ward, I am doing all I can to bring new investment not only to the park, but to the whole Court ward area.

Coun Bronwen Brooks (Vale Labour councillor for Court ward, Barry)

## The nurses on the front line who never let us down

AS another Armistice Day approaches, perhaps this year we might commemorate and give thanks for the courageous nurses who nursed the sick and wounded in both World Wars, and in subsequent conflicts.

In every theatre of war, the nursing sisters of the QAIMNS never left the British soldier down. The Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service was formed in 1912.

By a shrewd move, the Matron-General persuaded the War Office to grant the sisters military officer status (Lieutenant, Captain and Major), which effectively meant they were on an equal footing with their male doctor colleagues in the RAMC (medical corps).

During the 1914-18 war, the QAIMNS served on the Western Front in France and in Belgium, as well as Gallipoli, Mesopotamia (renamed Iraq in 1918) and Palestine campaigns.

During World War Two, they went with the BEF to France, then Norway, North Africa, Egypt, Sicily, Italy, then France and the Low Countries after D-Day in 1944.

They served in the Far East (India and Burma), where many were taken prisoner by the Japanese after the fall of Singapore.

The QAIMNS served in British military hospitals, forward dressing stations, hospital ships, and in hospital trains. Many lost their lives on land and sea due to enemy action.

They were all well qualified nurses, often deputising for the doctor when casualties were being received.

They also supervised the many volunteer nurses (VAD and FANY), as well as the male RAMC orderlies.

The War Office would not allow female doctors to serve with the RAMC overseas, despite the protests of Feminist doctors. Their role was restricted to looking after the women in the ATS serving on the Home Front, after joining the ATS as officers.

## OTHER PATIENTS

The perception that military nurses only looked after the wounded is only partially true, as disease was prevalent everywhere. My father, who fought in the Gallipoli and Mesopotamia campaigns in 1914-18, left me the official four volume report (2,500 pages). Quoting from it, out of the recorded casualties of 92,501 - 12,807 British and Indian soldiers died of disease. Even the Commander-in-Chief was not immune. General Sir Frederick Stanley Maude died of cholera in a Baghdad hospital in 1917.

During the Second World War, I served throughout the Allied Campaign in Italy (1943-45), typhus, dysentery and Malaria were rampant, which meant that battle casualties were only one of the many problems facing the RAMC and QAs.

I remember well the QAs in the Naples General Hospital where I was admitted with sandfly fever.

The QA sisters wore a distinctive grey and red uniform. Every day military discipline was maintained as the RAMC Colonel Commandant, accompanied by the QA Matron, a Major, carried out the daily inspection.

If a man was able to get up, he was required to stand at attention by his bed. Convalescing, we wore a blue tunic and trousers, white shirt and red tie.

While serving in Egypt in 1946, I visited a man from my section in the Suez Canal area, suffering from diphtheria.

The hospital in the desert was entirely under canvas, and pretty hot within. The young soldier's father happened to be a well known south Wales Labour MP, Ness Edwards, who had represented the Caerphilly constituency for many years.

So let us all reflect on November 11 on the dedication of nurses everywhere, whose commitment to mercy's work on earth owes so much to the tradition of military nursing following the devotion of Florence Nightingale in the Crimea.

Idris Berry, Porthcawl

We welcome your news and views.  
Please email :  
[ggem@internet-today.co.uk](mailto:ggem@internet-today.co.uk)

## The right to speak

I REFER to the recent GEM letter written by Pamela Drake, regarding Councillor Bertin: since when has free speech been cancelled?

Whether one agrees with Mr Bertin's views or not, he has the right to express them.

Ms Drake states she is a councillor - I've heard of Mr Bertin, but never of Ms Drake.

The moving finger writes and having writ moves on, nor all thy petty nor wit shall lure it back to cancel half a line, nor all thy tears wash out a word of it.

Doreen Hyman (Mrs), Barry



## COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS REPORT

# Former pupil's Commonwealth Games success

**CONGRATULATIONS** to former pupil Paul Walker at the Commonwealth Games, where he took fifth place in the pole vault with a height of 5.25m.

Paul is the current No 1 in Wales in pole vaulting.

His appearance at the games follows in the footsteps of Ross Sander in cycling, and Rhys Williams in rugby at the Melbourne Games 2006.

Well done to Paul and best wishes for the future from all at Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

## Football years 7 and 8

Cardiff and Vale Schools Cup, first round, the school's year-7 team played Michaelstone College, Ely, Cardiff and won 6-1.

Goals by: Luke Jeffries; David Bear; Jay Munn (2); Sean Davies; Harrison Stevenson.

Year-8 played Michaelstone College, and lost 4-1. The Cowbridge goal was scored.

## Tennis

**THE school played the South Wales Schools' under-13 boys team final against Rougemont School, Newport.**

The winner would go forward to the south west of England regional finals.

No 1 seed: Matthew Kamal won 6-2; No 2 seed: David Humphries won 6-1; No 3 seed: Alex Greaves lost 0-6; No 4 seed: Matthew Harper lost 3-6.

After the singles, the scores were level at two sets all and 15 games each.

The doubles were a close-run affair with Greaves and Harper losing 6-2, and Kamal and Humphries even closer; winning 6-4.

This resulted in three sets all but unfortunately, Cowbridge lost 25-23 on games.

It was a great effort by the team in winning eight matches to reach this stage before their first defeat.

## Rugby years 7 and 8

YEAR-8 played Barry in a league fixture and won 50-10, with tries by Rian Thomas (2); Tom Lucas; Fraser McGuigan; Nathan Robson; Tom Trotman (3); Matthew Harper kicked five conversions.

Year-7 played Barry in a league fixture and won 53-0 with tries by James Holder; Sean Davies; Daniel Bunney; Joe Nott (2); Tom Evans-Williams; Toff Patel; Sam John; Cai Evans, who also kicked four conversions.

Against Bro Morgannwg, the A team won 40-0, with tries by James Holder (2); Michael Thomas (2); Daniel Bunney; Joe Nott. Cai Evans kicked five conversions.

The B team won 50-0, with tries by Joshua Peterson; Harrison Stevens; David Bear; Tom Williams (2); Jay Munn; Oliver Rampling (2); Owen Tuckwell.



## Cross-country

**THE Cardiff and Vale Schools second league race was at Trelai Park, Ely.**

After the first league race, year-7 were in fourth position. A total of 250 runners took part.

Finishing positions were as follows:

14, Dewi Bennett; 18, Luke Jeffries; 41, Joe Nott; 63, Sean Davies; 64, Cai Evans; 67, Luke Johnson-Brown; Jake Roberts; 80, Owen Tuckwell; 97, Tom Williams; 99, Harrison Stevens; 119, Matthew Keating; 127, Owain Leyshon.

After the first league race, year 8/9 were in fourth position - 200 runners took part.

Positions: 11, Rian Thomas; 19, Alex Love; 29, Tom Owen; 47, Huw Bennett; 48, Ellis Rosser; 58, Liam Martin; 70, Miles Jenkins; 86, Alex Guard; 89, Miles Davies; 110, Warren Ryland; 124, Harri Thomas.

After the first league race, year 10/13 were in 10th position: 30, Matthew Sullivan; 51, Jason Sami; 54, Tom Morgan; 59 Scott Laken; 63, Adam Hewitt; 71, James Williams; 73, Stuart Fleming; 74, Lewys Jones; 78, Dillon Morgan; 94, Chris Powell; 95, Jake Walker; 96, Javier Rickard; 97, Jack Wilcox; 102, Daniel Newman; 103, Harri Trotman.

A bigger event, the South Wales Schools Cross Country Championships, was also held at Trelai Park, Ely, Cardiff.

In the year 7 and 8 race, there were 350 runners: 10, Rian Thomas; 21, Alex Love; 46, Huw Bennett; 47, Dewi Bennett; 48, Ellis Rosser; 58, Sean Davies; 59, Luke Jeffries; 105, Jay Munn; 122, Joe Nott; 136 Joshua Peterson; 157, Toby Walker; 248, Luke Johnson-Brown.

In the year 9/10 race, there were 250 runners: 37, Jason Sami; 57, Tom Morgan; 59, Scott Laken; 63, Tom Owen; 109, Chris Powell; 111, Miles Jenkins; 124 Liam Martin.

In the year 11/13 race, there were 150 runners: 37, Rhys Griffin; 51, James Williams; 55, Lewys Jones; 59 Adam Hewitt; 64 Jake Walker; 67, Stuart Fleming; 68, Jack Wilcox; 70, Harri Trotman.

## Hockey

**COWBRIDGE Comprehensive PE department and volunteers from year-12 (Dragon Sports leaders) held the first transition league for the primary cluster schools on the new 3G pitch at Cowbridge.**

Pendoylan and St David's Primary School took part in the two-week competition. Both schools brought two teams.

In week one, Pendoylan A beat St David's A 1-0; St Davids B beat Pendoylan B 3-0; and St David's A beat Pendoylan B 3-0.

In week two, Pendoylan A beat St David's B 7-0; St Davids A beat St Davids B 3-0; and Pendoylan A beat Pendoylan B 4-0.

The overall position was Pendoylan B (4th), St David's A (3rd), St David's A (2nd) and the overall winners were Pendoylan A.

Year-9 girls played away against Llantwit Comprehensive, winning convincingly 6-0. It was a very strong overall performance from the girls, who still have work to do on tackling skills and positioning during play.

Llantwit defended throughout with many goals being saved by their outstanding goalkeeper. Goals came from Hannah Gaskin (2) Hannah Woodward (3) and Izzie Eddy-Williams, who was also named player of the match.

## Senior hockey

**THE senior hockey team played their first match of the season against Bro Morgannwg on the new 3G pitch at Cowbridge.**

The new senior team, made up of year 12 and 13 pupils, played for the first time together. It was Katie Howson's first game back for Cowbridge since her knee injury which took her out of sport for a year. Molly Sander also made a welcomed return to the team after her illness.

Bethan Moorcroft and Molly Llewellyn, who play for Barry, have improved immensely in keeping possession of the ball as did Jessica Hayes who played a great game. The defence made up

of Alyson Bater, Amy Taylor and Louise Edwards played outstandingly and never let the ball get anywhere near Cowbridge's defending circle. Emily Hopkins, Beth Jarvis, Monsterrat Bray and Florrie Davies also contributed to the game with their enthusiasm.

The game finished 3-0 to Cowbridge, with Katie Howson scoring two goals and Molly Llewellyn scoring one.

Player of the match: Louise Edwards. Well done!

## Year-10 netball

**THE year-10 team started their match with a few mistakes, leading to St Richard Gwyn scoring three goals early, despite Bethan Sloane's excellent defensive work.**

When Cowbridge settled down making some good interceptions, it was unfortunate that Naduni Jaysinghe fell over, twisting her ankle.

With no subs, Cowbridge had to play one player down. The team pulled together and didn't allow St Richard Gwyn to take advantage. There was some quality attacking play by centre Liz Whitehouse, goal attack Mairi Baxall and shooter Nancie Edwards.

At half-time the score was 5-3. After the second half, the score finished St Richard Gwyn 8 Cowbridge 3. Player of the match: Bethan Sloan.

## Year-11 netball

**THE year-11 team finished the first half at 3-3.**

In the second half, Cowbridge were playing forcefully, but this led to some errors and St Richard Gwyn capitalised on these and scored twice.

Rachel Bradshaw and Romy Killick made some excellent interceptions and Katie Wynne and Jessica Oliver helped finish off the attacking work and scored some much-needed goals.

Laura Howells and Molly Frost worked well together in the defending circle but couldn't stop St Richard Gwyn staying ahead of Cowbridge. The final score was St Richard Gwyn 6 Cowbridge 5.

Romy Killick was player of the match.

## Skiing

**THE Welsh Schools Artificial Skiing Championships were held at Llangrannog Urrd Camp recently.**

The school had three teams in both boys and girls sections.

The Boys A team retained the trophy for the seventh consecutive time and the girls A team for the fifth time (only by 0.02 secs from Rydal Penrhos School, north Wales).

Individual success was achieved by the following skiers in the best turnout of schools in many years, 38 in total.

**GIRLS** - Children 2 - Non reg: 3rd, Caitlin

Jones (year-8); 2nd, Amy Oliver (year-10); 1st, Hannah Taylor (year-10). Junior 1 - Non reg: 3rd, Amy Taylor (year-12).

Junior 1 - registered: 2nd, Sarah Williams (year-12); 1st, Emily Hopkins (year-12).

Overall and Welsh champion: Emily Hopkins.

**BOYS** - Children 1 - Non Reg: 3rd, Harry Hopkins (year-7).

Children 2 - Non reg: 2nd, Matthew Goodlad (year-8).

Junior 1 - Non reg: 3rd, Harry Hitchcock.

Junior 1 - Non reg: 1st, Jack Phillips.

Overall registered: George Spill (2nd) and winner of the best skier outside this year's Welsh squad!

**TEAM:** Boys - A Team: 1st, Cowbridge Comprehensive 54.97; 2nd King Henry VIII, Abergavenny 56.76; 3rd, Rydal Penrhos, Llandudno 58.42.

B Team: 4th, Cowbridge comprehensive 61.07; C Team: 7th, 78.62.

girls - A Team: 1st, C o w b r i d g e

Comprehensive 59.51; 2nd, Rydal Penrhos, Llandudno 59.53; 3rd, Ysgol Gyfun Glantaf 60.82; C Team: 6th, cowbridge comprehensive 76.58; B Team: 7th, C o w b r i d g e Comprehensive 76.88.

Overall and Welsh champion: Emily Hopkins.

**Cyclo-cross**

**THE Welsh Schools Cyclo cross championships were held at Brecon Leisure Centre fields recently.**

Ten pupils from school competed in various age groups with a total of 108 cyclists.

Race 3 years 6 and 7: Niamh Jenkins, Sophie Lewis and Alicia Thomas competed in a strong field with many racers belonging to cycling clubs. In a field of 31 racers, Niamh Jenkins (year-7) completed eight laps of the 1,000m course in 15 mins to finish 17th, together with Sophie and Alicia, the school picked up the team award for this age group.

Race 4 years 8 and 9: Miles Jenkins and Alex Greaves (both year-9) along with Rebecca Thomas, Laurie Thomas

and Harry Locke (all year-8) competed in a strong field, with Miles Jenkins finishing in 10th place.

Unfortunately, the boys missed out on the team event because entries on the day did not qualify for the championships, which meant that Harry Locke was not able to count for the team.

The course was 25 minutes in length and all cyclists completed eight laps or more. Rebecca Thomas collected a silver medal in the girls category.

Race 5 years 10 and 11: This comprised a 30-minute course over obstacles and up and down hills.

Jake Morgan and Miriam Bennett were the only representatives from school. Jake finished 10th in a strong field, with Miriam collecting a silver medal for her hard work in the girls section.

A big 'thank you' to all parents, who transported pupils and bikes to Brecon for the day, as well as paying for the competition entry fees.



# Out and About with The GEM

## Join the Elves for a Macmillan walk!

**MACMILLAN** Cancer Support, Derek Brockway, BBC Wales weatherman and a team of elves, are linking up to urge residents to take steps together to help local people living with cancer.

You can join Derek and his team of elves on Sunday December 12 at 10am for Macmillan's sponsored Christmas Elf Walk, a 3.5 mile circular family friendly walk along the River Taff in Cardiff, taking in the sights and sounds of Sophia Gardens, Blackweir and Pontcanna Fields.

A special guest dressed all in red will be dropping in to give out goody bags along the way!



Help the elves and Macmillan!

You can register online at [www.macmillan.org.uk/christmaselfwalk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk/christmaselfwalk) or telephone 01656 867968. There is a registration fee of £10 (free for children 16 and under), on receipt of which you will be sent a full fundraising pack and special elf hats.

## Special service

**Choral Evensong, the most musical and reflective of Anglican services, will include music specially selected for Remembrance Sunday, sung by the St Hilary Church Choir at St Hilary Church Sunday November 14, at 4.30pm. Tea will be served afterwards.**

## Community bingo

THE management committee of Rhose Community Hall at Stewart Road, Rhose, is holding another of its fundraising bingo afternoons this Saturday, November 13, at the hall.

Doors open at 2pm for a 2.30pm start. All are welcome.

## Guides'

### fayre

THE Llantwit Major Guides will be holding their Christmas fayre on Saturday (November 13) from 2pm-4pm.

There will be various crafts on sale including a visit from Santa.

All proceeds will be used to maintain the building used by various local groups.

**Coffee-surgery** INDEPENDENT councillor Richard Bertin will be holding

a coffee morning surgery on Saturday, November 13 between 10am-12pm at the Gibbonsdown Community Centre, Ramsey Road, Barry.

Any resident of the Court ward is welcome to attend. Tea and coffee will be provided free of charge.

For further information, telephone 01446 736227.

## Ceilidh band

POPULAR local band Thumijigs bring a Ceilidh to St Donats Arts Centre on Saturday, November 13 at 7.30pm with an evening of traditional folk music and dance.

Telephone 01446 799100 for tickets.

## Legion AGM in Barry

THE next meeting of Barry branch of the Royal British Legion will be on Monday, November 15 and will also incorporate the AGM.

The meeting will be in the Mayor's Parlour, Barry Memorial Hall, at 2.30pm. a warm welcome to all.

Barry branch of the Royal British Legion would like to thank the public of Barry and the Vale, for their generosity in contributing to the Poppy Appeal.

The sum collected was £34,977.31.

## Wood meeting

THERE will be an open meeting with Woodland Trust at the Wick Sports Pavilion on Friday, November 19, 7.30m-9pm, to discuss development, management of Monks Wood, Wick.

For further information, please contact George on 01656 890386.

## Christmas crafts

NAZARETH Baptist Chapel in Wigan Terrace, Bryncethin, is holding a Christmas crafts event on Saturday, November 20 from 12noon-2pm.

Handmade Christmas crafts and gifts; tombola and raffle; books, toys and jewellery; cakes, pastries and marmalades.

Pop in for tea/coffee/sandwiches.

## Theatre Royal show

BARRY'S Theatre

Royal cinema centenary exhibition is on show until November 30 at the Room in the Park, Victoria Park, Cadoston.

In view of the planned demolition of this landmark building, this is an ideal opportunity to appreciate the cinema's history that is now likely to be lost forever.

A small section of the exhibition provides information relating to the Savoy building in Barry, which also started life as an entertainment venue in 1910.

The exhibition is open daily 10am-4pm, closing between 1pm-2pm Saturday and Sunday only, and is presented by the Save Our Cinema Association.

## RNLI coffee

COWBRIDGE RNLI will be holding its annual coffee morning on November 23, at the Cowbridge Rugby Club.

As usual, there will be a cake stall, bric a brac, raffle and a range of RNLI cards, calendars and souvenirs. Enjoy a sociable morning with friends and support the Lifeboat! Tickets on sale at the door or from committee members (£2.50).

## Penarth Homoeopathic Clinic

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THEATRY NEUADD GOFFA  
**MEMORIAL HALL THEATRE**

**Moscow Ballet - La Classique**

**Nutcracker**

Wednesday, 24th November

7.30pm

Tickets: £22.00, £17.00 Concessions, £12.50 U16's

**A lovely Christmas treat for all the family...**

Moscow Ballet - La Classique, founded in 1990, have deservedly gained vast international acclaim as they continue to thrill audiences throughout their world tours.

In this most famous of all fairytale ballets, Tchaikovsky's superb score perfectly captures the spirit of Christmas Eve, and the wondrous dream of a child's world in which anything is possible.

Regarded as one of the jewels of classical ballet, the Nutcracker represents one of the true timeless tales of childhood dreams, where all things are possible in a magical kingdom beyond imagination.

As night falls we are transported to the Land of Sweets, where toys come to life, an army of soldiers do battle with a gang of mice and a nutcracker is transformed into a beautiful prince.

A hugely enjoyable dance-spectacular, perfect for ballet lovers of all ages.

To win a set of four tickets for the Nutcracker, just answer this question:

**What is the nutcracker transformed into?**

Email your answer to: [boxoffice@barrymemo.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@barrymemo.co.uk)

Name .....

Address and post code .....

Tel ..... Email .....

Please tick here if you would not like to be added to the Memorial Hall Theatre's mailing list ☐

**Competition Rules:**

1. Closing date for entries: 19/11/2010; 2. Competition prize is four tickets for Nutcracker, no cash alternative will be offered; 3. Employees of BTC or MHT are not eligible to take part in this competition.

**Send your answers to:**

Nutcracker Competition, Memorial Hall Theatre, Gladstone Road, Barry, CF62 8NA

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# Members learn about American invasion of 1944

**THE part of Major William Lyons of the US Army Quartermaster Corps, was played at the last meeting by Mr Glen Booker, the local historian, who donned American uniform to re-enact the major's role in 1944.**

This was an effective bit of play acting and it was not hard for the members of the forum to imagine they were back in 1944 listening to the message that Major Lyons would have delivered to the townsfolk at that time.

This was really a situation report to keep the locals informed of what was going on and about the aims and intentions of the American forces and how they intended to carry them out.

Major Lyons emphasised that GIs were not over here as tourists, or even to make friends with the British (although plenty of them

## BARRY MEN'S FORUM

did) but to prepare for the forthcoming invasion of mainland Europe and to defeat, with their allies, the evil forces of Nazism that held sway there.

The land occupied in 1944 by the Americans was known as G-40 and covered a huge area encompassing the docks in Barry, Brynhill golf course and a huge part of Sully.

In his address, Major Lyons (aka Glen Booker) informed listeners that the Americans had disciplinary problems that have been largely forgotten today.

Black and white soldiers were strictly segregated and all were subject to US law and not British.

They could be hanged for offences that were not capital in this country, and two Americans in Sully were indeed sentenced to death for rape offences.

There were off limits areas in the heart of Barry and white and black soldiers were only

allowed 'recreational' nights out on different evenings. This was to prevent clashes between white GIs from the Southern States and black soldiers, with whom they were not used to fraternising.

At first GIs were discouraged from marrying British brides, but often nature took its course and the major showed photographs of some American soldiers who had married local girls.

After his talk, Major Lyons removed his uniform and reverted to his role of Mr Glen Booker and showed some interesting slides of historical photographs taken at that time.

*Meetings are held every Thursday at 10.30am in the hall of the United Reformed Church, Barry. New members are very welcome.*

*For further details, call 029 2059 4881.*

**MAC TANNER**

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH PENDOYLAN Nos.16, 23 & 41, WELSH ST DONATS Nos. 25 AND 63) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2010

On the 11th November 2010 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

The Order came into force on 11th November 2010 and will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Public Footpath Pendoylan Nos.16, 23 and 41, Welsh St Donats Nos.25 and 63) (Temporary Closure) Order 2010.

If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein

on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 22nd December 2009 apply to the High Court for this purpose

### SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall proceed on foot in the locations specified in Schedule 2 below.

### SCHEDULE 2

**Location** Pendoylan No's 23, 41, Welsh St Donat's No's 25, and 63 throughout their lengths Pendoylan No.16 from its junction where it meets the road at grid 303744 extending through Hensol Forest in a northeasterly direction to where it meets Cwm Farm at grid 304217 176864.

**Alt. Route** Pendoylan No's 23, 41, Welsh St Donat's 25, and 63 shall be via the adjacent public roads, that extend to the southeast, and northwest of Hensol Forrest Pendoylan No.16 shall be via the public road that runs to the northwest of this footpath.

**Reason** To ensure public safety, and minimise the likelihood of spreading the infection known as "Phytophthora Ramorum", when felling and removing the infected trees from the area.

**Duration** From 15th November 2010, for a maximum period of six months or completion of works, whichever is sooner.

**Signing:** Appropriate temporary signing will indicate the alternative routes.

Dated this 11th day of November 2010

M. Punter,  
Head of Visible Services  
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

## NEWS FROM THE BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

# Pupils' parents go back to the maths test in the classroom!

**LEFT: Wicked Maths Evening at Barry Comprehensive School!**

**BARRY Comprehensive School's mathematics department has welcomed parents and families of year-7 pupils back to the classroom – to take part in a special 'Wicked Maths Evening'.**

It involved families working together to gain an insight into the year-7 mathematics course and the topics that will be covered during the year.

Parents also had the opportunity to chat to their child's maths teacher in an informal setting.

During the school's recent Anti Bullying Week, pupils and staff again helped to raise the profile of the issue of bullying.

This year, the theme was 'Taking Action Together' and a number of events and competitions were organised to put this into practice.

The week started with a powerful performance by a visiting Theatre Group whose true and moving drama was presented to year-7 and 8 pupils.

The Big Barry Bake Off was a great success, with pupils and staff providing judges Mrs Lancaster, Miss Umbleja and Mr Tresilian with a very difficult task.

After much delibera-



tion and tasting, Matthew Lane, James Jones, Mrs Hill and Mrs Ellis were chosen as worthy winners.

Throughout the week, a series of football tournaments took place and these will culminate in National Anti-Bullying Week. Daniel Woolford won the badge designing Competition and his design was made into badges for the anti-bullying squad to wear.

A photography competition was introduced with the winner having their print made into posters to be given to every school in the Vale of Glamorgan. Finally, a cross-country run is planned which highlights the theme for anti-bullying week – 'Taking Action Together'.

All the events were organised by the pupils in the anti-bullying squad and they can feel proud of their contribution to the highly successful week.

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990

### CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

**HYSBYSIR** trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

### Development in Conservation Areas Datblygiad mewn Ardaloedd Cadwraeth

**Application No:/ Rhif y cais:** 2010/01149/FUL  
**Proposal/Cynnig:** Demolition of existing side single extension and replacement with two storey extension, addition of first storey to existing single storey rear extension, lean-to extension to rear.  
**Location/Lleoliad:** Wildflower Cottage, Wick Road, St. Brides Major  
**Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth** St. Brides Major

**Application No:/ Rhif y cais:** 2010/01148/FUL  
**Proposal/Cynnig:** Alterations, restoration and extension to existing 5 no. bedroom dwelling to form 4 no. bedroom family home. To include demolition of later extensions to original house. New landscaping works, parking and vehicular access and flood prevention measures.  
**Location/Lleoliad:** Greenfields, Castle Hill, Llanblethian, Cowbridge  
**Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth** Llanblethian

### Listed Building Consent Caniatâd Adeilad Rhedredig

**Application No:/ Rhif y cais:** 2010/01135/LBC  
**Proposal/Cynnig:** Detached kitchen pavilion with fully glazed link between pavilion and existing house. Creation of one new opening to access link, raising of bedroom window by 400mm and introduction of conservation rooflight.  
**Location/Lleoliad:** Garmillwyd, Llancafan  
**Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhedredig** Grade II\*

## TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995 GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF (TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

### Application(s) that may be of General Public Interest Cesiadau a allai fod o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol i'r Cyhoedd

**Application No:/ Rhif y cais:** 2010/00968/FUL  
**Proposal/Cynnig:** Erection of seven dwellings and associated highway and drainage works  
**Location/Lleoliad:** Former Westra Quarry Site, St. Andrews Road, Dinas Powys

**Application No:/ Rhif y cais:** 2010/01142/FUL  
**Proposal/Cynnig:** Continued implementation of planning permission no. 2009/00817/FUL without compliance with condition no. 1 recycled aggregate facility  
**Location/Lleoliad:** Wenvoe Quarry, Cardiff

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at [vog.planning-register.co.uk](http://vog.planning-register.co.uk)

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfedd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Cesiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i [vog.planning-register.co.uk](http://vog.planning-register.co.uk).

Dated: 11 November, 2010  
Rob Thomas  
Head of Planning and Transportation  
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,  
Dock Office,  
Barry Docks,  
Barry  
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 11 Tachwedd, 2010  
Rob Thomas  
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant  
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,  
Swyddfa'r Doc,  
Dociau'r Barri,  
Y Barri  
CF63 4RT

## Councillor Rob takes to the air!

**BARRY councillor, Rob Curtis, took to the skies recently to raise funds for the Help for Heroes charity, which gives help and support to wounded service men and women.**

The Gibbonsdown councillor did a 42-

## Choir to perform

**ON November 20, the Barry Ladies Choir will be taking part in an all-female concert at St David's Hall, Cardiff, in aid of the Noah's Ark Appeal.**

'Christmas, with All the Trimmings' on December 7 is the Barry Ladies annual Christmas concert. It will be held at the Masonic Hall, Broad Street, Barry, at 7pm.

For tickets, at £6 each, contact June on 01446 746495, or buy at the door. There will be a bar and raffle, also a guest artiste.

minute solo flight last week and in the process raised nearly £300 sponsorship.

He told The GEM: "I attended the Armed Forces Day that was held in Cardiff and was so proud of the professionalism of our sailors, soldiers and airmen that I felt I should do my bit to support our forces who risk everything on our behalf."

"Help for Heroes provides practical direct support to those servicemen and women wounded in the line of duty in the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan."

"The charity does an excellent job to ensure that the money you donate goes to the men and women who need it and not on administration!"

Coun Curtis added: "I would like to thank everyone for sponsoring me and also warn them that I will be around to collect their money!"

"Please log onto [www.bmycharity.com/fly-forheroes](http://www.bmycharity.com/fly-forheroes) or phone 01446 736287 if you wish to be a late sponsor!"



# Local villagers making the 'trek' to Helmand Province – in aid of Help for Heroes



ABOVE: Jon cuts the tape.

**RESIDENTS of St Mary Church in the Vale have set themselves (together with the support of their families and friends) a huge challenge.**

On Monday, November 8, they began walking/running the equivalent distance between the village and Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

In the centre of the village they have built a military-style bunker housing two treadmills.

The residents have secured the help of 1 Para who have provided tents, lighting, and camouflage, which have

helped 'set the scene' for the expedition.

Gym Systems in Barry have generously loaned the residents the two treadmills for the duration of the project, and the target set for completion of the journey is Friday, December 17.

The intrepid volunteers are taking part in one-hour shifts.

The first 'victim' on the treadmill was Tim McIlveen, whose idea it was to undertake this mammoth task.

For the next five weeks there will be someone on the treadmill 24 x 7 and each walker/runner will be supported at all times by



Expedition headquarters.

**RIGHT: Tim gets going!**

a 'buddy' whose responsibility is keeping them motivated, and signing the rota to confirm the participation while adjudicating on the mileage achieved.

The target this enthusiastic group of village residents have set themselves is to raise £20,000 for this worthy cause.

This will be achieved through participant sponsorship, donations, and the proceeds from raffles and table top sales which will take place throughout the expedition.

The residents of St Mary Church encourage GEM readers to follow the expedition on

Facebook and Twitter, and if in the area, to pop along and give some encouragement to the teams on the treadmills and their buddies.

Any donations can be made on our Bmycharity web page or in the booklets in the village, or on the bar at the very supportive Blacksmiths pub in Llanmaes and The Vale of Glamorgan pub in Cowbridge.

If anyone wishes to join the 'expedition' or would just like some more details, please pop into the 'control centre' in the middle of the village!

SB

## PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB

### Never underestimate the importance of backing yourself up!

**BACK-UP is important. Having painstakingly created many files on your computer, you will need to make sure that you keep them.**

To understand the matter, Kevin clarified what backing-up means: that you create copies of your files and store the copies in such a way that, if one set should be lost, it can be recovered by copying the other one – the 'back-up'.

That's a very simple, easily understood proposition, but it is a big subject. It means that (at least) two copies of a file must be in existence at all times. Copying photographs from a camera onto a DVD is NOT making a backup if the pictures are then deleted from the camera.

If the CD is damaged or lost, you no longer have the files. To do the job properly, it is important to check that the back-up copy is readable. A back-up CD is not much use if the files turn out to be

unreadable. It is sensible test-read the back-up to be sure that it will be available when wanted.

Obviously, there is a certain amount of time and effort involved in making back-ups. That leads to the first consideration – 'Which files should I back up?'

Here you are on your own. The need to keep any file safe depends upon its importance to you personally, and your willingness to make the effort. You are the only judge of that. Some files might be unimportant, yet others might be of enormous financial or sentimental value. The lengths you go to will vary accordingly. Some things, such as downloaded music files, might be easily replaced by downloading them again. Snaps of a special occasion might be irreplaceable.

As part of the exercise, don't forget your contacts/address book, your web favourites or your emails. Some people are more comfortable with a printed

copy of important letters or emails.

Quite why you would ever need your back-up is a topic in itself. As Kevin said, don't be too alarmed about all this, but eventually something will go wrong. You could accidentally delete or overwrite files (or someone else might). At some point, a hard disk drive will fail: (potentially at any time over the next 5–10 years, starting now!) Apart from the hassle, even if the files can be recovered by specialist software, it could prove expensive. It's so much better to have a back-up handy.

A dropped lap-top could ruin a hard drive. Some viruses are nasty enough to corrupt files. You could suffer a theft or leave your lap-top on a train. What if your house is burgled, flooded or burnt down?

On a positive note, next time we'll look at how to organise to reduce and simplify the work and consider some storage options.

HOWARD  
DESMOND

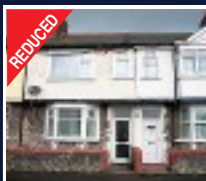
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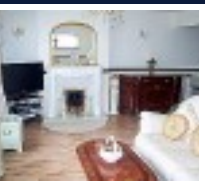
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• Gas central heating  
• Double glazed  
• Offered freehold with no chain

**£97,950**



**GLADSTONE ROAD, BARRY**  
• 3 bedroom semi detached in central location  
• Partial gas central heating  
• Partial double glazing  
• Good sized gardens and driveway  
• Offered freehold with vacant possession and no chain

**£124,950**



**PHILADELPHIA CLOSE, BARRY**  
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• Good sized gardens  
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# Good start to season for Athletic Seconds

**THIS season, Bridgend Athletic entered a new WRU League created for Second XVs of the Premiership and Division 1 clubs.**

They are the only representatives from Division 1 West, though last season's demoted side, Builth Wells, are also in the competition.

Premiership teams include Bedwas, Cross Keys and Glamorgan Wanderers, while Division 1 East is represented by Beddau, Bargoed, Rumney, Merthyr and Llanharan.

After seven games, the Athletic are on top of the league with 26 points, followed by Bedwas with 25 points from six games and Beddau and Glamorgan Wanderers with 24 points from seven and six games respectively.

This is a highly commendable situation for the club and serves to provide a higher standard of rugby to make the transition into First XV Division 1 rugby, compared to the former District League, where the Athletic previously competed.

The next two Athletic fixtures are away to second and third-placed Beddau and Bedwas, which will take them to the half-way point of the season.

The Athletic have beaten Builth Wells, Merthyr, Rumney, Bargoed and Llanharan, drawn with Cross Keys, and their only loss was against Glamorgan Wanderers.

They have 241 league points for and 137 against, with 33 tries for, and 16 against. Captain and out-

side-half Tom Cole is the leading points scorer with 72 points; centre Nick Hinton is the leading try scorer with seven, followed by wing Richard Fussell with five, Owen Francis and Johnny Nation with four, Callum McLeod and Cole with three tries.

The following players have also turned out for both the First XV and Second XV this season: Callum McLeod, Johnny Nation, Tom Cole, Lewis Davies, Nathan Holman, Connor McDonald, Lee Pemberton, Jonathon Stoker and Lyndsey MacAuland.

This shows the benefit of the higher standard of rugby, enabling players to step up to the First XV in Division 1 West and perform creditably.

AB

## Pencoed under-14s face Tondy

**PENCOED under-14s travelled up to Pandly Park over the weekend for the most anticipated game of the season so far.**

Tondy scored their first try when they chipped Pencoed's defence.

After a fumble in the Pencoed backs, in front of the post, Tondy were gifted their first try of the day - their conversion was successful.

Pencoed pushed through Tondy's defence for Jonathan Clatworthy to score the team's first points of the day.

In the first half, Liam Parish went off with an injury, and Scott Ewing came on as an early replacement, and he kept up the good work that Liam had started.

In the second half, it seemed to be looking up for Pencoed as a successful penalty put them in the lead by eight points to seven.

Jason Clatworthy nearly got another try for the Pencoed team after driving through the Tondy defence, but the

Tondy pack caught up with him by the post.

There was good tackling from Jonathan Clatworthy, Morgan Jefferies, Daniel Maiden and James Whittaker, and a good game for new boy Kristen Morgan.

Strong defence came from Chris Cooper and Jack Briggs, while Ellis Griffiths also shined with some good attacking play throughout the game.

Aled Bargery was always aware to close down the Tondy attacks with good defence, and winger Jamie Dyer gave it his all. The Tondy pack then scored a try, which was successfully converted by Harrison Evans.

*Squad: Josh Maunder, Scott Ewing, Liam Parish, Jack Briggs, Morgan Jefferies, Owain Clarke, Aled Bargery, Daniel Maiden, Johnathan Clatworthy, Jason Clatworthy, James Whittaker, Morgan Jones, Chris Cooper, Alex King, Ellis Griffiths, Joe Watkins, Jamie Dyer, James Merchant, Will Sellers, Jordan Fox and Kristen Morgan.*

JM

## BRYNCETHIN MINI AND JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND-UP

# Pressure pays off for Bryncethin under-8s

**UNDER-8s: Corus 2 Bryncethin 5**

**ON a glorious morning for rugby, Bryncethin under-8s travelled to Port Talbot for a fixture against Corus.**

Good defensive work from both teams meant that tries were hard to come by, but it was the home side that made the breakthrough - and Bryncethin were quick to get on the level terms.

As the first half went on, there was plenty of excellent tagging from Jack Jervis, Thomas Bassett and Kalleem Podmore, and a couple more tries meant that the half ended all square at 2-2.

The second half got under way and it was Bryncethin that took the initiative with some great passing play to take the lead with another couple of tries.

Further Bryncethin pressure was rewarded with a final try to run out 5-2 winners.

Man of the match: Rhys Cawley for great running and two well taken tries. Special mention to Cory Ryall for excellent support play.

Try scorers: Rhys Cawley (2), Jake Whitefield (2), Shaun

Batchelor.

*Squad: Jake Whitefield (captain), Thomas Bassett, Shaun Batchelor, Rhys Cawley, Ifan Hunnam, Morgan Hughes, Jac Jervis, Hollie Morgan, Kalleem Podmore, Cory Ryall and Morgan Thomas.*

**Under-10s: 7**

**Bryncethin 7 ONCE again, the under-10s failed to perform during the first half and produced a disjointed display, with tackles being missed and possession being lost.**

Desperate cover defending by captain Aaron Thomas and Daniel Osargie meant that the home team only managed the one score, which they duly converted to take a half-time lead.

The second half saw an improved display but on too many occasions Bryncethin were choosing the wrong options.

Luke Board, Ethan Hopkins and Rhys Davies all made ground and secured possession and moving the ball swiftly across the line allowed Tobias Hunt to cross for a well-worked score. The conversion by

Jack Thomas levelled the score.

The coaching staff can only hope that the players realise that by playing a team game they will be much more effective.

*Squad: Aaron Thomas (captain), Scott Ryall, Jack Thomas, Tobias Hunt, Ethan Hopkins, Luke Board, Daniel Osargie, Josh Napper, Morgan Stevens and Rhys Davies.*

Man of the match: Aaron Thomas - the match captain led by example.

**Under-11s: Valley Ravens 5**

**Bryncethin 45 BRYNCETHIN travelled to Valley Ravens and the Ravens put up a stern fight, but in the end it was the visitors who ran out convincing winners.**

With good interplay between backs and forwards, some lovely tries were scored with the ball passing through numerous hands. The forwards were strong and disciplined while the backs showed good pace and quick hands.

Well played the Valley Ravens, as they never let their heads drop and played with conviction right to the end.

Man of the match - Thomas Brown.

Scorers: Owen Hart, Ryan Blake, Dafydd Evans, Iwan Veasey, Emyr Hunnam, Emyr Watkins, Gethyn Napper and Morgan Tarr.

*Squad: Dafydd Evans, Emyr Watkins, Emyr Hunnam, Iwan Veasey, Ryan Blake, Ryan Morgan, Thomas Brown, Gethyn Napper, Jake Canton, Sam Shakeshaft, Morgan Tarr, Owen Pugsley, Owen Hart, Will Pitt and Matilly Chlojeng.*

**Under-14s A CRACKING game saw Bryncethin take on Llantwit Fardre.**

After a very testing early season, where the performances haven't been rewarded with deserved victories, it was nice for the lads to play with such style and substance.

The game flowed from end to end with the visitors contributing a great deal with their own spirited performance. Not to be outgunned, the Bryncethin youngsters ran in eight tries with six of them converted by Ryan Richards.

Man of the match - Evan Jones.

Scorers: Dan Lockyer (5), Joseph Archer (2) and Kane Ford.

*Squad - Gareth Evans (captain), Curtis Napper, Dan Lockyer, David Robinson, Evan Jones, James Morgan, Joshua Green, Joseph Archer, Kane Ford, Keiron Hart, Lewis Young, Luke Owen, Owain Davies, Rhys Bevan, Ryan Richards, Ben Reynolds, Thomas Rees, Tyler Green, Shane Simonds and Jacob Williams.*

RH

## Saints grab derby victory

**LLANTWIT MAJOR LIONS 2 SUNDAY SAINTS FC 6**

**IT was derby day in the Bridgend Sunday League as Saints made the short journey to Llantwit for the first competitive meeting between the two sides.**

Leigh Lewis took the plaudits after a blistering hat trick as the wide man tormented the home side all game.

Saints turned on the style as Tom Roberts broke up a home attack and found Tony Charles. Charles' ball put Leigh Lewis in and he just got his boot to the ball and the ball trickled over the line.

Lewis then turned provider and showed some incredible skill as he outpaced the defence and squared a low ball for Charles to tap in.

After more good work from Roberts and Mark Pickering in the middle of the park, Mortimore found Charles and his cross found Dean Cleave in the area.

The ball broke and Pickering lashed in the loose ball for his first of the season.

Charles was again involved as Saints notched the fourth, as his excellent through ball was perfectly weighted for Leigh Lewis to race

away and calmly round the keeper to roll in his second of the game.

A cross in to the box was half cleared and Matthew Price wasn't closed down and hit a magnificent curling effort from 25 yards into the top corner to pull one back for the Lions.

Saints wrapped up the points in the second half, as Nicky Cox's cross field ball was flicked on by Cleave, and Leigh Lewis knocked the ball past the keeper and stroked the ball into the net for his hat trick.

The icing was put on the derby cake ideally by the Saints' captain. Roberts once again broke up another attack and found Mortimore out wide, who centred to Lewis and he picked out Charles who laid off to skipper Nicky Cox.

Cox, then 35 yards out on the right hand side, unleashed an absolutely stunning strike that went like a bullet into the top corner of the net.

The Lions pulled another one back as a free for a further consolation.

A great derby win for Saints as they continued their domination at the top of the league, and it was a good, competitive game played in the right manner, between the two sides.

HD

## Pencoed too strong for Bus

**PENCOED 2nd XV 72 CARDIFF BUS 9**

**A PENCOED DEVELOPMENT XV proved far too strong for their visitors in this first ever fixture between the clubs, scoring twelve tries.**

Tries flowed from Ashley Pinches (4), Tom Davies (3), Rhys Pope (2), Richie Samuel, Liam Halse and Paul Macfarlane, with Halse, Samuel and Davies adding six conversions between them.

The front row of Tony Morris, Dewi Jury and veteran Phil Pinches provided a solid platform, allowing back five Paul Richards, Paul Watts, Justin Russell, Rhys Pope, and Hywel Llewellyn to enjoy acres of space.

The threequarters enjoyed the lions share of the tries scored; newcomers Richard Griffiths and Gareth Hughes did well on their club debuts, and are welcome new additions to the development squad.

Pinches, Pope, Halse, and Macfarlane gave good performances, with Pinches in particular furthering his chance of a 1st XV opportunity in the near future.

TR

# Porthcawl under-16s defeat tough opposition on cold day!

**PORTHCAWL welcomed a powerful Ystrad Rhondda side to Rest Bay on a cold and bright Sunday morning.**

Having not met previously the young Seaweeds didn't know what to expect, but were aware of their reputation as one of the top two Rhondda sides, fielding Blues North regional and development players.

The home side were forced to rest players due to Ospreys and district commitments, but were once again able to field a strong team that would be up for a difficult game.

The very powerful Ystrad Rhondda unit rucked with ferocity and mauled powerfully to gain a bit of momentum.

However, once Porthcawl got into the game, things started equalising out.

The line outs and scrums were very evenly contested and with the

**Porthcawl RFC under-16 12 Ystrad Rhondda RFC under-16 7**

two sets of backs looking to move the ball a great contest was on the cards.

A period of sustained pressure saw Lloyd Rosser held up twice - once from a superb backs move with the winger running a superb line just to be tackled over the line, and again from a scrum.

The Seaweeds worked the blindside and Rosser was again tackled over the line - great defence from the away side.

It was inevitable that the pressure would eventually give and Rosser was fed the ball down the wing, and used his pace and power to score an excellent try which went unconverted.

The halftime whistle saw Porthcawl go in with a slender 5-0 lead. Ystrad Rhondda again started the second half strongly and were rewarded with a try when poor tackling by the

home side saw the full back run in a very good solo try.

This was converted and Ystrad Rhondda who now led 7-5.

The away side's players and supporters now became very vocal - this was a match that they were obviously desperate to win.

However, rather than adding pressure to the home side, this seemed to spur them on as they began to dominate the scrums and contest well at the line outs.

The rucking and tackling became fierce with Porthcawl competing well and although things didn't get out of hand, the away side were beginning to lose their cool.

Evan Williams, Jack Taylor and Owen Wright were immense during this half and took control of the game.

A number of rucks

were won by the Seaweeds in the opposition 22, and finally Evan Williams broke away and bounced off a number of defenders to score a good try.

This was converted by Thomas Matthews, 12-7.

With time running out, Ystrad Rhondda threw everything they had at the home side, but they were unable to break through stalwart defence and the young Seaweeds showed that the away side weren't the only ones who wanted to win this match.

The final whistle sounded with Porthcawl being victorious in what was a very good game of rugby.

Coach Ian Evans said: "Teams are definitely upping their game when they play us and it is great to see the whole squad step up to the mark."

"Today, they give as good as they get against a tough Rhondda side."

PB

## Llantwit boxer takes 91k title

*Champ Lee Dixon.*

**LEE Dixon of Llantwit Major Boxing Club became CYP 91kg British champion on a show in Risca Leisure Centre recently.**

His opponent, Matthew Donnelly from Broadplain ABC Bristol, proved to be a tough task for Lee. The first round was close with both lads connecting with long jabs but neither boxer wanting to give away easy points, holding their hands high and defend-

ing well. The second round saw much the same pattern. After being given instructions from coach and father Mickey, Lee opened up in the third round to stretch his lead and stamp his authority on the fight.

The fourth and final round saw Lee dig his heels in and outwork the Bristol boxer, giving him a 13-10 well earned points decision.

Welsh squad coach Tony Williams was first to congratulate him on a great performance.



# Pencoed Phoenix rise against Nantylffyllon

**NANTYFFYLLON** 10  
**PENCOED PHOENIX** 26

**THIS was a closely fought affair, with two late second half tries from Phoenix the difference.**

Nantyl took the lead in the opening quarter, their Ospreys No 8 Kelsey Boast breaking from the scrum to free her right wing team mate with a well-timed pass to score in the corner.

Phoenix centre Katie Murphy then put in two strong tackles within a minute to halt home side attacks.

Phoenix now began to gain more possession, and a storming run from Becca Pope put Phoenix back on the attack.

Their expansive game was to pay dividends with two tries at the posts, outside-half Beth Butler adding both conversions, for Phoenix to lead at the interval 14-5.

Nantyl then hit back at the start of the second half with a well-constructed try through their forwards.

Phoenix then enjoyed a period of pressure, with only over eagerness in their three-quarters preventing further scores.

Eventually, a try came from broken play, with Butler adding a difficult conversion from out on the left for Phoenix to lead 21-10.

The final try of the match was well worth waiting for. Phoenix, under pressure close to their own line, cleared to almost halfway, before regaining possession for wing Shauna Blake to outpace the desperate Nantylffyllon cover to seal the match.

Jodie Parsons was chosen Phoenix player of the match.



Phoenix centre Katie Murphy on the burst.

The Phoenix under-18 squad require players to supplement their number. Prospective players (over-15/under-18 at September 1, 2010) please contact team manager Michelle Halse (07709 073912).

On Sunday, November 14, Phoenix play a key league match at home to University Wales Lampeter, kick-off 2.30pm, and they will look to cement their position at the top of the Senior Women's Development Table.

TR

# Bridgend Athletic under-10s keep running in the tries!

**Bridgend Athletic under-10s**

**Athletic v Maesteg Welsh - Game 1**

**MAESTEG Welsh were the visitors for this week's fixture and the teams played three games against each other.**

Maesteg had nine players so the Ath supplied a player for each match to make up the numbers, and the first volunteer was Josh Tidy.

Maesteg got the first game under way but it wasn't long before Ath scored their first try with Gwilym John going over after stealing the ball well.

Dan O'Sullivan converted to make the score 7-0.

Maesteg defended and broke well on occasions, however it was Ath who scored the next try with Gwilym John stealing the ball again to go over the line.

O'Sullivan converted again to make it 14-0 to

the Ath. The next try was again scored by the Ath, with Megan Webb making a great run up field to score.

O'Sullivan scored the conversion to make it 21-0.

O'Sullivan managed to force his way over the line to score but missed the conversion, to put the Ath 26-0 up.

Maesteg nearly got on the score sheet after some good pressure on the Ath line, but the final score of the game came from the Ath after some great driving from the forwards and good hands to get the ball to Dan O'Sullivan, who went over the line.

Brandyn Fooks completed the scoring with the conversion to make the final score Ath 33, Maesteg Welsh 0.

**Ath v Maesteg Welsh Game 2**

The first half of game saw The Ath's Chris Hart playing for Maesteg.

The first try of the match came from Charles Creffield who did well to force his way over to score.

Kasari Mehta converted to make it 7-0.

Jade Thomas scored next after picking up the ball well. Sam Veasey converted to make it 14-0.

The final score of the half came from Sam Veasey, who weaved his way the length of the field to score a good try.

The conversion was missed making it 19-0 at the break.

The second half saw Louis King replace Chris

Hart for Maesteg, and they started well with the Ath standing strong and tackling well.

Maesteg scored the first try of the second half and it was Louis King scoring against his own team for Maesteg!

The try was converted to narrow the gap to 19-7 in the Ath's favour.

From the re-start Maesteg piled on the pressure which resulted in their second try of the game which was converted to make it 19-14 to the Ath.

Sam Veasey scored the last try of the game, going over with a well taken score.

The conversion was missed making the final score 24-14 to the Ath.

**Ath v Maesteg Welsh Game 3**

The final game of the day saw Ffion Revill playing for Maesteg.

The Ath powered out of the blocks and Thomas Anthony scored early on.

The try was converted by Jack Obbard making it 7-0.

Some good work from the Ath allowed Connor Fabian to score next, and Gwilym John stepped up to convert making it 14-0 to the Ath.

Thomas Anthony forced his way over to score and he stepped up to kick the conversion to make it 21-0 to the Ath.

Maesteg were doing all they could to stop the Ath with some great tackling but it wasn't long before Thomas Anthony scored his third try of the game.

The conversion was

missed and the score was 26-0.

Connor Fabian stole the ball well and made it over the line for the next Ath try, which was converted by Jamie Marshall making it 33-0.

Dafydd Beech made a brief appearance for Maesteg due to an injury, but was replaced when the Maesteg player had recovered from his knock.

Chris Hart found space to go over and score, Connor Fabian converted to make it 40-0 to the Ath.

Thomas Anthony scored his fourth, and the Ath's last try of the game forcing his way over well.

The conversion was missed and the final score was Ath 45, Maesteg 0.

A special thank you to Josh Tidy, Chris Hart, Louis King, Dafydd Beech and Ffion Revill for being good sports and helping Maesteg by playing for them.

Squad: Louis King, Jack Obbard, Gwilym John, Teo Filiis, Thomas Anthony, Thomas Reed, Connor Fabian, Jamie Marshall, Dan O'Sullivan, Megan Webb, Brandyn Fooks, Christopher Hart, James Hermoille, Sam Veasey, William Goodall, Charles Creffield, Dafydd Beech, Ffion Revill, Taine Waite, Lance Burn, Kasari Mehta, Morgan Evans, Jade Thomas, Josh Tidy.

LR

# The Porthcawl under-11s turn on the style

**Porthcawl v Taibach - October 31**

**ON a wet and miserable Sunday morning, Porthcawl welcomed the Port Talbot team to their South Road home.**

Straight from the kick-off The Seaweeds looked intent on making the day even more miserable for the team in red and black.

Tries from Louis Protheroe (3), Ethan Waters (2), Joe Stradling (2), Harry Evans and Kurtis Pridmore with conversions by Ethan, Ben Collins, Joe Stradling, Dan Williams (2), Louis (2), Zakk Furness-Jones and Will Mahoney, made this a convincing victory for the green and blacks.

Final score: Porthcawl 63, Taibach 12.

**BRIDGEND SPORTS v PORTHCAWL - NOVEMBER 7**

**First game**

PORTHCAWL took on the Sports at their home ground, and the Sports started well at the ruck and in defence but could not stop the inevitable.

The try fest began with Louis Protheroe sprinting to the corner to claim what was to be the first of 6 tries for the green and blacks.

Brandon Cooper was next as he charged over for Porthcawl's second score. Joe Richards, Ethan Waters, Joe Stradling and Will Mahoney followed with tries of their own to make the final score Bridgend Sports 0, Porthcawl 42.

All the tries were comfortably converted by Brandon Cooper.

**Second game**  
THE Sports fared a lot better in this game and ran Porthcawl very close.

The home side scored first, but this was quickly cancelled out by a try from Ben Davies.

Porthcawl then took the lead courtesy of a mazy, length of the field try by Meuryn Nelson.

The blue and whites gathered themselves and levelled the scores minutes later with a well worked try of their own.

Dan Williams, determined as ever, crossed for the green and blacks' third try almost immediately.

The Seaweeds fourth and final try was scored by Kurtis Pridmore thundering over from close in.

The Sports weren't finished, and claimed their third before the final whistle.

Final score: Bridgend Sports 15, Porthcawl 20.

The rest of Porthcawl's hard working squad was Connor Grant, Ben Collins, Harry Evans, Harry Nichols, Callum Morgan, Matthew Roberts, Ben Roach, Connor Harrington-Pittam and Lloyd Mortimer.

# Tondu under-11s' red hot display against Pontadawe

**TONDU under-11s were invited to take part in a round-robin fixture at Bryncoch RFC, where they would play the home side and that of Pontardawe.**

Tondu took on Bryncoch first in what proved to be a bruising encounter. Bryncoch put in a resolute defensive display, denying Tondu on many occasions throughout the game.

Tondu did manage to cross the whitewash on three occasions but were

called back by the referee for earlier offences, and the game finished 0-0.

In the second game, Tondu took on Pontardawe and this turned out to be a completely different encounter.

Having warmed up in the first game, Tondu were red hot in the second, putting Pontardawe to the sword with a physical display.

Tyler Davies opened the scoring quickly followed by Ben Rich, showing good speed to scythe his way over the try line.

Pontardawe were

chasing shadows and had no answer to Tondu's abrasive attacking edge and conceded a further two tries before half time - Garryn Thomas charging through to touch down for a well taken brace. All tries converted by Josh Evans, for a half-time score of 28-0 to Tondu.

Tondu carried on the second half where they left off the first. Ben Rich picked his way through some slack Pontardawe tackling for Tondu's fifth try, which was then quickly followed by a touchdown from Ben Marchant, who took off on a mazy diagonal run, tearing a hole in the defence and straightening up to dash in for the sixth try.

James Mayne popped up at the end to finish the scoring with a strong run from a short distance out, capping a fine display by this vastly improving side.

Josh Evans added the extras with a cool headed kicking display.

Full time score: Tondu 49, Pontardawe 0.

Once again, this Tondu side has showed a fine cutting edge, both in the forwards and the backs, with determined tackling, running and fine ball handling.

The defending has also been immense, and the coaches and parents can be proud of the hard work that the players have put in over the last few months.

**Match squad:** Garryn Thomas, Josh Evans, Michael Batters, Ben Rich, Ben Marchant, James Mayne, Morgan David, Tyler Davies, Ioan Thomas, Ryan Kershaw, Jordan Morgan & Ryan Jones.

DM

# Tondu under-14s just pipped

**TONDU UNDER-14s** 15  
**PONTYPOOL UNITED** 17

**THIS game was highly competitive as Tondu dominated for long periods but could not close the game out, finally going down 3 tries to 2.**

Strong running by Adam Harris, Cole Lewis, Lloyd Webb and Sam Matthews resulted in quick possession for the backs.

Ben outstretched the cover defence to touch-down at the corner and this try was converted by Ben Jones.

Tondu continued to dominate and further extended their lead when Ben Jones put over a penalty following strong running by Callum Jones and Lloyd Webb.

Pooler were awarded a free kick and ran the ball quickly. Following a few phases, their winger was released into space

and made a jinking 60-metre run to score under the posts; this try was converted.

Pooler were now rejuvenated and were soon back on the attack and a back move down the blindside resulted in their second try.

Tondu further fell behind following a scrum deep within their 22. The ball was distributed for the clearance kick; however, it was cruelly charged down by the onrushing Pooler defence to claim their third try.

Tondu, to their credit, came back at Pooler and mounted one final assault. Deep in injury time, following good work by the forwards, Simon McPhee scored a corner.

The try was unconverted, which resulted in a Pontypool win.

EJ

# Athletic under-11s enjoy good day's rugby

**ATH GREENS v RUMNEY**

**A SUNNY day saw the Ath welcome a strong Rumney squad to Newbridge Fields.**

The Ath had the better of the early exchanges and within minutes a good pass from Joe Patterson gave Dylan Parry just enough space to race in and open the scoring.

Almost immediately, the Ath scored again when Rhys Durlucia made big inroads into the Rumney defence before offloading to Caine Woolerton, who ran over to touchdown.

Rumney hit back with a long distance try to make the score 10-5 to the Ath, who then scored a lovely try.

Forwards Joe Grabham, Jack Walker, Morgan Hughes, Matthew Hobby and Rhys drove upfield before laying the ball back for the backs.

Rhys Gamble moved the ball right and excellent passing by Ieuan Thomas, Joe and Dylan saw the ball worked out to full back Harry Provstgaard who scored in the corner.

The Rumney centre burst through to make the score 15-10 to the Ath at half time.

The first five minutes of the second half saw Rumney blitz the Ath and score three tries without reply.

Eventually, the Ath worked their way downfield and a lovely long pass from Kyle Ball just failed to break the Rumney cover.

Caine scored to bring the Ath back into the game, the Ath strove hard to get the equalising try but the final whistle went with the final score the Ath 20, Rumney 25. Man of the match went to Joe Grabham who worked hard throughout the game and won some good turnover ball off the strong Rumney outfit.

**ATH YELLOWS v RUMNEY**

**THE Yellows took the field and immediately took the game to Rumney.**

Captain Tom Zielinski and fellow forwards Matthew Hibbert, Brandon Burgess, Chris Crompton and Jac Bassett played as a unit, and were rewarded when Jac took a pop pass to plough over and open the scoring.

Rumney hit back straight away with a good try of their own, and kicked well out of defence, but Nathan Willis, who covered well at full back, and Cameron Lewis ran the ball back hard with good support from Callum Morgan and Drew Cording.

Ieuan dummed his way through a number of defenders to score and put the Ath ahead again.

Brandon Burgess had a fine game clearing out well and making some good tackles and Chris Crompton ran powerfully, deservedly bagging the Ath's third try.

In the second half Rumney came at the Ath again and scored to make things close as the game drew to a close.

However, Iwan Osbourne, playing at centre, had other ideas and helped the forwards win ruck ball.

The ball was worked out to Paul Teesdale, who raced in at the corner for his first try in Ath colours.

The final score was the Ath 20, Rumney 5.

This was a well deserved win for the Yellows, who pleased the coaches and fans by playing some very good rugby in the match.

Man of the match went to Jac Bassett, who worked tirelessly throughout the match and thoroughly deserved the award.

LG

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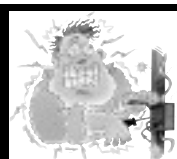
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OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN ALL ASPECTS OF  
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Do you have any of the following problems...?

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We offer a competitive and friendly service to the Vale and surrounding area  
**TRY US FOR NEW UPVC WINDOWS AND DOORS**  
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**Window Tec UK**  
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It's Quality that counts!!

Doors & Windows  
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Paper Hanging a Speciality

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Internal & External Painting, Decorating, Gilding.  
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- Extensions & Renovations
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- All problems fixed
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Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning  
Average Carpet £35 3-Piece Suite £70  
DIY Hire Service 1/2 Day £10, 24 hours £15  
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  - One price - No extras.
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### Chimney Sweep

C.R. JOSE  
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If its wood - we're very good!  
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OVER 20 YRS EXP.  
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# DON'T DO IT YOURSELF

Call a professional  
From our A-Z list



## ADVERTISING IN THE GEM WORKS!

Many of our advertisers have used The GEM for years. This speaks volumes. Some are lucky enough to have a great response within weeks, and some after placing just one advert . . .

**"YOU HAVE TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT"**

Give us a call now - **01446 774484**

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Following on from placing my first advert in The GEM I thought you may like to know that I've had a great response!  
I received lots of initial enquiries from Llantwit Major and Barry which converted into 6 jobs within the first 2 days of The GEM being printed and I was still receiving calls up to a week later! Thank you again for your assistance and advice which is invaluable for a new business.

LOUISE LEWIS  
Tel. 07964 179 473

### TESTIMONIAL



Advertising with The GEM has proved to be most successful in the promotion of my business.

Thank You,  
Spot on!  
Tel. 07854 148 236

### TESTIMONIAL

#### B. W. Construction & Property Maintenance

I have been running my advert consistently for a number of years and would recommend The GEM without hesitation.

Thank you.  
Brett Warren,  
BW Construction.  
**07742 572731**

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For your property & garden needs  
• Fencing • Paths • Patios • Turfing  
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References available call Nathan

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Free estimates, fully insured.

- Landscaping • Fencing
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Seasoned Logs Delivered to your door  
Logs are delivered in the big bags  
Use straight out of the bag  
Call PREMIER TURF  
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**04 Ford KA**  
1298cc, metallic black, electric windows, PAS, air con, long mot + tax, excellent condition, one previous owner.  
**£2,150 ono**  
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**51 Nissan Micra 1.0**  
3-dr in silver, tax 4 months, 10 months mot, winter tyres, in good condition.  
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**Landrover Discovery**  
Metallic Blue, 2.5 Turbo Diesel, 5 Door, 7 Seats, 1992, PAS, cd, Long MOT, Taxed  
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**£795**  
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**£2,000 ono**  
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4 door (Auto), in silver, 6 months tax, 6 months mot, good condition  
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## Public Notices

**NOTICE TO PORT USERS AND TENANTS**  
**ADVANCED WARNING - ROAD CLOSURE**  
**WIMBORNE ROAD PORT OF BARRY**  
1400HRS THURS 11TH NOVEMBER 2010 TO  
1600HRS TUES 16TH NOVEMBER 2010  
THE RAIL CROSSING AT JEWSON BUILDERS MERCHANTS IS TO BE RECONSTRUCTED DURING THE ABOVE PERIOD  
ACCESS TO DOCK VIA MILLENNIUM WAY ONLY  
ACCESS TO HAYES & BENDRICKS ROAD VIA SULLY MOORS ROAD ONLY  
ASSOCIATE BRITISH PORTS 0870 609 6699

**The Llantwit Major Branch of the Welsh Conservative Party**  
will be holding a **SURGERY** in the Heritage Centre, Llantwit Major Town Hall  
on **Saturday 13th November, 2010**, between 11am & 12 noon.  
If you have any queries, please come along and speak to us.

**GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE**  
All Regions Jetting Ltd trading as  
9 and 10, Queens Court, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan CF31 3TQ.  
is applying for a licence to use:  
9 and 10, Queens Court, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan CF31 3TQ.  
as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicle.  
Owners or occupiers of land, including buildings near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at National Licensing Office, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehill Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF stating their reasons within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

**TO LET OGMORE BY SEA STUDIO FLAT**  
Self contained. Off road parking, sea views.  
Phone for details.  
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**Small Starter Industrial Units For Rent**  
Barry area.  
Three available.  
Tel: 01446 721168 or 07813 134123  
Reasonable rates

**Rooms available in shared house**  
**BARRY TOWN CENTRE**  
£75 per week  
All bills inclusive, DSS accepted.  
Tel: 07896 013563

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**WE BUY:**  
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• WIRE & CABLE Etc.  
**Cash Paid £££££**  
Up to £4.20 per kilo given for Copper  
**TURN YOUR OLD METAL INTO CASH**  
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**SUTTONS Auto Salvage**  
Up to £150 paid on collection, for scrap, MOT failures, and tax expired vehicles. Also body shells and scrap metals collected. No wheels, no problem.  
Tel: 029 2059 7887  
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**£100 to £1,000**  
Collect (any distance).  
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**07816 172933**

## Articles For Sale

**ADVERTISE HERE** for up to 4 weeks for 50p a word plus VAT. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to "The Glamorgan Gem" at The Gem, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel: 01446 774484. Adverts must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. Sorry no refunds are given.

**2 x 2 SEATER SOFAS** plus large foot stool. One year old. Cost £1,000, sell for £350. Tel: 01446 792182. (46)

**WOODEN TABLE** and 4 chairs £30. Mothercare cot, beech finish £25. Terracotta 2 seater sofa £30. Ikea side unit, white wood drawers and cupboards, pine top £35. Tel: 01446 760417 or 07967 443357. (46)

**2 X 2 SEATER SETTEES** Black leather, as new £150 pair. Golf clubs, bag and stand £80. Tel: 07780 856964. (46)

**SHOWER UNIT** Free standing corner with power jets, hardly used £100 ono. Tel: 01656 728611. (46)

**ELECTRIC GUITAR** Black Marlin Bluesin. VGC. £75 ono. Tel: 01446 771982. (46)

**6 CHAIRS** Inc. 2 carvers, matching rectangular dark oak table, good condition £140. Corner display unit, dark wood £15. Welsh dresser and base, dark wood £40. Tel: 01656 749935. (46)

**2006 iCANDY** Travel system, carry cot, stroller, car seat attachments, raincovers £150. Tel: 01656 654261. (46)

**PIANO** Excellent condition, tuned recently £220. Buyer collects. Tel: 01446 710573. (46)

**VIBROSTATION Pro** training plate, 18 months old, never used. Cost £900. As new. Offers. Birdcage, white on stand, hardly used, as new. Offers. Tel: 01446 407354. (46)

**VERY LARGE** Chesterfield settee in black, good condition £150. Tel: 02920 514742 or 07742 297018. (46)

**GIRLS PINK BIKE** 4-6 years. Cost £85, sell £25. Good condition. Tel: 07561 594773. (46)

**LARGE** George Foreman grill £25. Breville juice extractor £25. Almost new. Tel: 01656 788787. (46)

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**THREE PIECE SUITE** Blue/gold patterned. £120 ono. Good condition. Tel: 01446 410747. (45)

**QUALITY CURTAINS.** Two curtains each 10ft width by 7ft 1" drop, mustard in colour. Four x 5ft 4" width by 70 drop, floral pattern. All fully lined. Excellent condition. Reasonably priced. Tel: 01446 413150. (45)

**SHOWER CABINET & BASIN** Gold colour, good condition, bargain £150. Tel: 01446 701277. (45)

**TWO EASY CHAIRS** Ikea Poang. Excellent condition, new £85 each, will sell both for £50. Tel: 01446 747574. (45)

**THREE SEATER** Brown leather settee. Also armchair and swivel armchair £170 ono. Tel: 01446 781272. (45)

**WASH HAND BASIN** Pedestal, toilet high level £25 ono. Tel: 01446 736754. (45)

**BUNK BEDS** Quality pine, spring mattresses £60 ono. Tel: 01446 736828. (45)

**DINING ROOM SUITE** Mahogany reproduction Regency. Table, 6 chairs and sideboard. Immaculate condition. £600 ono, will separate. Tel: 01446 773452. (45)

**LADIES BILLABONG** Ski clothing. Size 10/12 and Large ski boots size 5, excellent condition. Offers considered. Tel: 01446 771982. (45)

**EX-MASKREYS** Marble dining table and 6 high-backed beech chairs. Good condition £300. Tel: 01656 646147. (45)

**MASKREYS** Cream leather two seater sofa & chair £250 ono. Boys 25" wheel mountain bike £30. Both excellent condition. Tel: 07899 946977. (45)

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**COMMUNITY NEWS****ST BRIDES MAJOR**

Your local correspondent is  
Patricia Bevan-Morgan  
(01656) 880418

**REMEMBRANCE Services:** St Bridget's Church, Sunday, November 14, 10.45am; laying of wreaths; Last Post (10.45am).

Eweny War Memorial, Sunday, November 14, 10.55am.

Wick War Memorial; Sunday, November 14 outside Village Hall, 10.45am, followed by service at Wick chapel at 11.10am.

**ST BRIDES MAJOR CHURCH IN WALES SCHOOL** of Remembrance at the school at 10.45am, Thursday, November 11.

**NOSON LAWEN** was held at the Fox and Hounds on November 4 as a welcome to the visiting teachers to the school from Spain, Italy and Sweden. A cawl supper was followed by a three-part quiz, song and dance. A most enjoyable evening showing off Welsh culture.

**OGMORE RETIRED RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

MEMBERS had a most interesting evening when the speaker, Bill Lee, spoke on his experiences at the Royal Tournament.

**DATE FOR THE DIARY**  
THE next PACT meeting will be held at St Brides Major Church Hall, on Wednesday, December 8 at 6pm.

**WELCOME TO ST BRIDE'S!**

LEFT: Staff and children at St Brides marked the completion of the COMENIUS project welcoming teachers from partner schools across the Continent.

## St Brides pupils welcome European visitors for COMENIUS project

LAST week marked the completion of the two-year COMENIUS project at St Brides' Primary School, during which the school has been linked with partner schools in Czech Republic, Italy, Spain and Sweden.

A week of special activities was held with teachers from Italy, Spain and Sweden visiting St Brides.

A spokeswoman said: "They were entertained with an eisteddfod, noson lawen and a trip to St Fagans."

"Their visit coincided with the appointment of Mrs Clare Matthews as headteacher - what a great week!

An autumn 'open day' will be held at the school on Tuesday, November 16 to which all are welcome.

The open day will start at 9.30am and finish at 2.30pm. School tours, garden tours and refreshments will be available throughout the day.

For more information, contact the school on 01656 880477.

## GEM Family Notices

**Family Notices****HARTLEY**

Suddenly on November 7 at Llandough Hospital, John, aged 78 years, of Westward Rise, Barry. Athletics Coach of Barry Harriers for 35 years.

A loved husband of Anne, loving father of Denise, Angela and father-in-law of Eddie and Kevin, cherished grandfather of Joanne, Andrew and Dominic. John will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at AG Adams & Son funeral home, Gladstone Road, Barry, until the funeral on Tuesday November 16. Service at St Helen's RC Church, Barry, at 11.00am, afterwards internment at Barry Cemetery. Family flowers only, if desired donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for British Heart Foundation.

**BELBY Enid**

Suddenly on November 7, Enid Belby (née Battin).

Beloved wife of Brian and dear Auntie of David, cherished by family and friends, will be sadly missed.

Funeral to take place in the Wenallt Chapel, Thornhill Crematorium, Thornhill Road, Llanishan, Cardiff, on Wednesday 17th November at 3.30pm.

Enquiries to: D Caesar Jones, Rhiwbina. Tel: 02920 522644

**Paula Spencer**  
13th November 2008

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## COWBRIDGE MINI AND JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND-UP

### Kenfig Hill are put through mill (twice) by the Cowbridge under-7s

**Under-7s Kenfig Hill (home)**

A SUNNY winter's day at the Cattle Market saw Cowbridge under-7s entertain their Kenfig Hill counterparts.

They certainly turned on the style with a marvellous display of teamwork in both attack and defence, coupled with some outstanding individual displays.

From the time Rhidian Williams outflanked the entire defence to Harry Treharne jinking through the defenders for a superb touchdown, the entire team was on fire.

A hat trick from Reuben Davies and a brace from Iolo Davies and Harry Treharne were

the just desserts for strong finishing.

Both games were played in a good spirit, and in the first game scores were being traded evenly until the boys got their tagging going. This resulted in the turnovers that led to a hat trick by Reuben. The first game was won 9-4, and the second game completed the rout, winning 5-1.

This team is really starting to gel and with the improvement in defence has come the results - the boys just need to be consistent to get the winning habit.

Try scorers: Reuben Davies (3), Rhidian Williams (2), Iolo Davies (2), Harry Treharne (2), Stefan Evans, Akka Guwy, Will Harries, Finlay Brace.

Squad: Finlay Ball,

Finlay Brace, Tom Brenan, Robbie Brown, Iolo Davies, Reuben Davies, Ethan Evans, Stefan Evans, Akka Guwy, Morgan Harries, Will Harries, James Jones, Rhys Pritchard, Lewis Robbins, Will Ryan, Harry Treharne, Rhidian Williams.

**Under-11s Kenfig Hill (home)**

COWBRIDGE played hosts to Kenfig Hill, who they had not faced since the boys were at under-8 level.

Cowbridge kicked off and immediately laid siege to the opposition line. Forwards and backs alike forced Kenfig Hill backwards with some crunching tackles, and after great work from the forwards, the ball was popped to Bevan

Howells and the classy centre powered over for the opening score. Bevan added the conversion for a 7-0 lead.

Straight from the restart, the ball was turned over and Max Lucas stormed over for the second, with Evan Williams converting.

Cowbridge continued to press the opposition and once again, the forwards, with Max Lucas and Dan Taylor outstanding, won good ball - allowing new recruit Morgan Gore the opportunity to dance over the line for a good try.

Morgan added the conversion for a 21-0 lead. Although the Kenfig Hill boys were giving their all, they could not match the power in the Cowbridge line up and Bevan Howells added the next, converted by Iolo

Howells.

The next try came as a result of great work from Jac Roberts, Jake Griffiths and Sam Corkill, which took play

to within 10 metres of the opposition line.

The ball was recycled and a superb looping pass from Iolo Lewis released Evan Williams for the next score. With Evan converting the lead was 35-0. Bevan Howells added another try and converted for a 42-0 lead.

With Cowbridge dominating, the coaches decided on mass changes for the second period. Kenfig Hill responded well to their half time talk and came back into the game with two extremely well taken tries.

William Davies, Max Cunningham and Jac Roberts were leading the charge for Cowbridge, and from a good steal Morgan Gore added his second try of the day with a length of the field effort.

Kenfig Hill added another score before the referee blew for the end of the half.

For the final period of play the side was once

again shuffled and a few new combinations tried. This period of play proved to be fairly even with both sides stepping up the intensity.

Cameron Roy was superb in defence and attack with good support from Dylan Cottle and new recruit Ellis Simon. Kenfig Hill added the next try, before Evan Williams finished off proceedings to leave a final score of Cowbridge 56, Kenfig Hill 24.

Our thanks to all from Kenfig Hill for their part in a great morning of rugby.

Squad: Angus James, Bevan Howells, Cameron Roy, Daniel Taylor, Dylan Cottle, Ellis Simon, Evan Williams, Iolo Lewis, Jac Roberts, Jake Griffiths, Max Cunningham, Max Lucas, Morgan Gore, Oliver Reynolds, Rhys Davies, Sam Corkill, Tom Coates, Tom Jose, William Davies.

MTL

## Cowbridge under-8s show plenty of heart

ON a cold and crispy sunny morning, Cowbridge under-8s entertained Kenfig Hill Mules in two games.

The opposition were among the best teams that Cowbridge had played, and once again, due to numbers, the full Cowbridge squad was split into two teams so that each team could play a full match.

**Game 1 - Cowbridge 1, Kenfig Hill 9**

In the first game, the opposition's ability proved a little bit too much, notwithstanding Cowbridge's brave efforts in both attack and defence.

Kenfig also possessed four or five players with considerable pace who added to the home team's difficulties.

The Cowbridge try was scored by Harri Howkins, and followed one of a number of good team moves where the ball was kept in hand, showing the potential that the Cowbridge team have.

Special mention should be made of Owen Goddall, Harri Howkins, James Gilvear and Matthew Gilvear for their particular efforts during a difficult game.

Squad: Owen Goddall, Harri Holtham, Sam Coates, James Gilvear, Matthew Gilvear, Elis Greenwood,

Harri Howkins, Morgan Isaacs, Tom Johnson, Robyn Martin, Carin Evans and McKinley Parsons.

**Game 2 - Cowbridge 6, Kenfig Hill 6**

This was an excellent effort by both teams.

In an exhibition of end to end rugby, which was a credit to players and coaches alike, the second game ended with honours even and five try scorers from the Cowbridge ranks.

The mini Mules again showed their ability to catch and pass while moving at speed.

Cowbridge defended extremely well and countered with their own brand of much improved tag rugby.

On a number of occasions, rather than individual breaks, tries were scored directly as a result of the efforts of both teams, and the score reflected how each side had played.

Tries were scored by Harry Whittaker, Robbie Hawkins, Aled Leitch, Oliver Jarman and two for Ben Farrell, which again is reflective of this being a team effort.

Squad: Aled Leitch, Iolo Davies, Robbie Hawkins, Ben Farrell, David Harris, Oliver Jarman, Harry Whittaker, Jake Williams and Jack Reilly.

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## Ambassador Nadia impresses the MP

**VALE MP** Alun Cairns recently met with Nadia Tavana, a Cancer Research UK Ambassador, to hear more about the charity's crucial work.

"Their remarkable record of achievement in cancer research is not simply the work of scientists, doctors and nurses; it is also testament to the hundreds of thousands of supporters who give so generously, especially of their time," Mr Cairns said.

"Nadia is clearly passionate about working with others to help beat cancer.

Her role as an Ambassador brings together the highly passionate supporters, staff and scientists of Cancer Research UK to create the right political environment to beat cancer and ultimately saving lives.

"As MP for the Vale, I'm pleased to say that



NADIA WITH THE VALE MP.

David Cameron recently gave a speech highlighting the Government's commitment to Cancer.

"The objectives are to reduce mortality and morbidity, increase safety, and improve patient experience and outcomes for all.

"What this means in real terms involves improving key elements,

such as life-saving cancer screening facilities, and introducing a new system of value-based pricing which will make effective treatments affordable to patients on the NHS (as deemed clinically and cost effective by Nice or the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group)," he stated.

## Can you offer this cute Kitty a loving home?

**THIS** is Kitty, a six-year-old neutered female who came to the Bridgend Adoption Centre in search of a new, quieter home as her last home wasn't suitable.

Kitty likes being a lap cat and prefers to stay indoors. She has been in the centre since September and is looking forward to be in a home before Christmas. She needs a home with no young children – and no dogs!

**Cats Protection, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin, Bridgend CF32 9UJ**  
Tel: 01656 726621 • Fax: 01656 722012  
Email: [bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk](mailto:bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk)



## Ty Hafan winners

**THE** following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D635.

● £2,000: 365955.

● The rollover, which now stands at £4,500, was not won this week.

● £10: 366518,

472150,

143005,

326198,

107513,

776595,

664409,

758015,

216014,

757418,

208124.

● £5: 499672,

558995,

830935,

337755,

478342,

631899,

823383,

333642,

605914,

950801,

197699,

811410,

366712,

192192,

485339,

313402,

614274,

103936,

683896,

891118,

888169,

103928,

199556,

868679,

744157,

734595,

650744,

783151,

748392,

368930,

710479.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

109984,

664991,

892940,

712803,

477466,

561261,

471534,

152812,

475217,

323833,

779460,

348468,

533062,

745473.

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For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

## PACT meetings

**DYFAN PACT public meeting, Barry Comprehensive School, Port Road, Barry, on Monday, November 22 at 6pm.**

**COURT PACT, Ilminster Scout Hall, Ilminster Close, Barry, on Thursday, November 11 at 7.30pm.**

**PENDOYLAN Community Council at Pendoylan School on Thursday, November 11 at 7.45pm.**

**CRAIG PENLLYN coffee and chat meeting at the Barley Mow public house on Wednesday, November 17 at 11am.**

**STANWELL PACT will be held in The Pod, St Lukes Avenue on Friday, November 12 at 7pm.**

## Position is axed

**THE** post of town centre manager has been axed by the Vale Council.

Spokesman Bob Guy, who is operational manager for countryside and economic projects, confirmed that the post no longer exists.

He said that there would not be a dedicated town centre manager in the future.

## 'The Mole is taking shape!' Vale AM is told



**WHEN** Vale AM Jane Hutt had a meeting with Matthew Kennerley, ABP's Port Director for Wales and Deputy Port Manager, Callum Couper, who is in charge of the Port of Barry (above), she was told that progress has been made on the development of the Mole, with a boat storage area, car park and slipway planned for Water activities in No 1 Dock.

She said it was "vital" that all those who use the dock are

engaged in the plans for these improvements and was glad to hear that this was progressing.

Mr Couper also updated the AM on business in the port alongside and including No 2 Dock with the notice that Wimbourne Road would be closed from November 11 – 14 for the re-surfacing of a stretch of road to replace the rail crossing.

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## Ramblers savour the sights of the Dare valley country park

**ON** a slightly overcast morning with some sun promised for later, 11 walkers and dog Jodie, joined Clive for a trip to the Dare Valley Country Park in Aberdare, which opened in 1974.

The Dare valley is a classic example of a glaciated U-shaped valley with the glacial cwm of Tarren y Bwllfa at its head, and it is from this cwm that a glacier formed 15,000-years ago and gouged out the deep valley that forms the present landscape.

Being the first country park in Wales, it was the first in Britain to have been created from reclaimed land and there are still the remains of coal mines to be seen in the area.

At one time, the Dare valley was home to 19 collieries and two drift mines and two major railway lines passed through the valley that were used to transport coal to ports at Cardiff and Swansea.

By 1965, all the mines had closed except for Bwllfa which remained open to provide ventilation to the mine system.

After leaving the car



TAKING IN THE VIEW.

park, the group went into the park beside a babbling brook which they followed to the reservoir and the tree and rock covered face of Tarren y Bwllfa came into view.

Continuing on, they passed a pit head wheel, a reminder of days gone by, and reached a lake that had been drained leaving dark muddy soil at the bottom.

There followed an ascent towards Craig yr Ysgol and as time passed on the opposite side of the cwm, sheep were being rounded up by the farmer and his three dogs, to be brought to lower pastures.

Also hidden amongst the trees, they spotted two observation points that could be used to watch the wildlife in this area without being

spotted. Continuing through ferns turning rapidly to bracken, a soggy footpath led them to a kissing gate with a clear view of Aberdare and the park which made the perfect stop for morning coffee.

Refreshed, they continued uphill on a slight incline to Tarren y Bwllfa, and open moorland at Panwaun, Bryn-y-March which they crossed using part of the Coed Morgannwg Way.

Reaching a road, they headed towards the Lluest wen reservoir by the side of a fast flowing stream with some small waterfalls.

At the reservoir they continued on to reach the forest where the autumnal colours were stunning and they could occasionally catch glimpses of the reservoir through gaps in the

trees. At a stone marker they turned and began to head back – towards the reservoir through Twyn y Bloedd, where they saw an unexpected tree – the eucalyptus and there were about five in total.

They left the forest and descended to the reservoir where a large concrete base made a good seat for lunch to be enjoyed, while listening to the sound of the water gushing down the reservoir overflow.

They retraced their footsteps across the moor and exited down the right side of the valley via Craig Pen-rhiw-llech, whilst enjoying the lovely views of Tarren y Bwllfa and away in the distance the peaks of the central Beacons.

Another soggy trail led them to the valley

bottom and past a small stream to join a tarmac road that led them back to the visitors centre after a great day out.

On November 13, meet 9.30am at Dinas Powys village square for a 6.5-mile moderate walk at Sully and Cosmeston; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

On November 14, meet 9am at the Barry Waterfront for an 8-mile moderate walk taking in Cowbridge, Llandough and Slingstone; contact Val W on 01446 734925.

On November 16, the mid-week walk will leave Cogan at 10am for a 7-mile easy/mod trek at Peterston-super-Ely; contact Viv/Val on 029 2053 1045.

A reminder that on November 17, the group are holding their AGM from 7.30pm in The Old Library at the rear of the Parish Hall, Dinas Powys and everyone will be most welcome.

For other groups' walk log onto [www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk). Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 02920 219102.

JOY STRANGWARD

## A magical finale for Girlguiding centenary



**RAINBOWS, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and their leaders from 10th Barry, St Athan and Rhose units in the Vale District recently shared a magical moment as they joined girls and women around the country to celebrate the end of the Girlguiding UK Centenary year.**

Nearly 200 girls and their leaders congregated at Rhose Station car park to begin their torch light ramble through the moonlit fields, overlooking the sea and the lights of Western, to the Fontygary Leisure Park for their special Centenary Promise Ceremony.

In the glow of the campfire, with the lanterns they had made at their feet, the girls sang traditional and



modern campfire songs. Three Brownies treated everyone to a rap of the Brownie Promise they had made-up, followed by each section singing a guiding song that was special to them.

The evening culminated with all Guiding members present, old and new, reflecting on what the promise has meant to them and to share a Vision for the next 100 years of Guiding. All members made or reaffirmed their Promise in unison with half a million guiding members around the country.

Each girl and leader will be given a 2010 exclusive Promise badge and certificate for attending this significant event in Girlguiding history.

The Vale of Glamorgan District would like to thank the Fontygary Leisure Park for allowing the use their field for this occasion.

If you are interested in being involved with Guiding, as a member, leader or occasional helper, please contact the District Commissioner Jane tel 01446 750645. MG



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# BARRIANS EDGE OUT RIVALS SEA VIEW IN A LOCAL CHARITY MATCH

IN a beautiful, autumnal sunshine, the Barriars took on Sea View Second XV in an eagerly anticipated local derby, played in aid of the charity Bridge2Aid.

With key players Gerwyn Pugh and former international centre Ian Davies both out with injury, player manager Ken Chow reinstated himself in the team and handed a debut to Nicky Palmer, who played his first ever game of competitive rugby for Barry.

Martin Tanner returned to the fold as well after a three year absence, while Christopher Bailey kept his place at fly-half, with last weekend's man-of-the-match, Danny Ryan, relegated to the bench.

Sea View came out firing all on cylinders from the kick off, and pressed for the Barriars' line immediately.

Using a heavy pack, they drove into the away twenty-two, and looked certain to score until some superb Barrian defence turned the ball over.

The away side were matching the View's physicality but were struggling to get any line-out ball.

The Barriars fared much better in the scrum, and from this

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Sea View Second XV | 10 |
| Barriars           | 34 |

solid set piece they finally gained some territory.

With Barriars deep in the home twenty-two, scrum-half Joel Williams spun the ball out to allow centre David Williams to crash over to open the scoring; Bailey was unable to add to extras.

Barriars pushed on and more sublime back play saw the ball spread out to Michael Avoiut who delivered the final pass to debutant Palmer to race through to score in the corner.

The conversion was missed.

Sea View tried to relieve the pressure through the boot but Alex Evans was outstanding at full back and ran the ball out of danger time and time again.

David Williams scored his second try of the game, and this time Joel Williams added the extra two points with his boot.

The home side rallied after half time and came out with renewed impetus, and from a tap penalty they exposed the Barrian defence and scored a deserved try to narrow the away lead.

The conversion was unsuccessful.

A period of scrappy play followed which saw hooker Eric Bergeron become the first Barrian to be binned, and he was swiftly followed by Glenn Morgan to see the away side down to thirteen men.

Sea View used their numerical advantage and scored a second try off a set piece, and with the

conversion missed, were now within a score of their visitors.

An injection of fresh legs from the bench was sorely needed and this was delivered immediately.

Moving the game away from the forwards, quick feet and good hands saw the ball spread out wide with pace, and substitute Luke Bounds raced through to score in the corner.

Ryan was unable to add the extras.

With the game seemingly safe, Barriars played with more purpose and freedom, and that resulted in another debutant, Chris West, scoring his first try in senior rugby.

Despite the missed conversion, the visitors opened up a healthy lead.

There was still time for Chow to be denied a try after being held up on the line, Sea View having a try of their own disallowed, and Andrew Houldey visiting the sin bin.

The game was rounded off with Hywel Jones breaking through from his own half to score a length-of-the-pitch try, and Bounds added the extras with a drop kick.

Many thanks to all those who played the game in the right spirit, and the supporters who turned up for both clubs.

A total of £95 was raised during the day for the charity Bridge2Aid, and I would like to forward the charity's gratitude to all those who

made a donation.

**Team:** Evans; Palmer, D Williams, Avoiut, Chow (c); Joel Williams, Bailey; Houldey, Bergeron, Wheeler; Tanner, Lundy; Prosser, Hitchcock, Moffat. **Subs used:** Morgan, Case, West, Bounds, Jones, Adams, Boffy, Joff Williams. **Man-of-the-match:** Prosser.

## CLUB NEWS

### North Berwick Trip, February, 11

Players and supporters are reminded that a further 50 per cent of the outstanding balance for the above trip must be paid by November 20 and payment can be made either to Andy Jamieson or Carol at the bar.

Those who have yet to pay their deposits must pay £50 plus half of the outstanding balance by the same date.

The final payment must be paid by December 18.

### Christmas Draw

The Christmas draw takes place on Saturday, December 4.

Would those selling tickets please return them as soon as possible, by November 20.

Unsold tickets must also be returned to allow us the opportunity to sell them.

The proceeds of the draw are helping to fund the Scottish trip, so make every effort to sell them; cash and tickets can be given either to Andy Jamieson or Carol at the bar.

For the latest team news, match reports and events for Barry RFC, visit the new website at [www.barryrfc.co.uk](http://www.barryrfc.co.uk); membership is free.

KC



**WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!** Morganne Gomez, Jones, Liam Rees, Tracy Goodwin, Jamie Halford, Chelsea Rees, Gabby Thomas, Katie Barnfield, Bradley Halford, Cheriece Haysham, Matthew Bennett, Charlotte Sullivan, Cameron Thomas, Lucy Newman, Shannon Haysham, Ollie Tipples, Hayley Mathey, Morgan Stillman and Thomas Stillman.

## Local Tae Kwon Do school grab a haul of 31 medals at WOMAA grand prix event

**AFTER the success of the recent world games, the Cadoxton and Colcot Schools of the TAE Kwon-Do Association (Europe) recently travelled to Liverpool to take part in the fifth of a series of six WOMAA grand prix tournaments.**

Once again the students representing both schools did their instructors and parents proud, with the clubs dominating the tournament and bringing home a collection of 31 trophies between them.

Making a weekend of it, the competitors and supporters all enjoyed a day at Alton Towers on the way home.

Competing for the first time was Cameron Thomas, coming away with a second in continuous and third in point sparring.

Thomas Stillman and Shannon Haysham both won second places in point sparring, while Cheriece Haysham took third in the pattern section.

Having his first outing since having an operation on his toe, Jamie Halford came away with a well-deserved first in the men's point sparring.

Also competing for the first time in six years, Tracy Goodwin showed all her old competitive spirit by taking first in continuous sparring and first in senior patterns.

Thomas Haysham was the star of the day by being placed in all four of the categories he

entered, first in continuous, second in point sparring, third in weapons and third in patterns.

Successful in their respective categories were: Dominic Todd, second point and second in continuous sparring; Charlotte Sullivan, first in point sparring; Morganne Gomez Jones, first in continuous and second in point sparring; Katie Barnfield, second in point sparring; Liam Rees, third in continuous

and third in point sparring; Chelsea Rees, third in continuous sparring; Matthew Bennett, first in continuous and second in point sparring; Bradley Halford, second in both the point and continuous sparring; Ollie Tipples, first place in both the point and continuous sparring; Lucy Newman, second in both the continuous and point sparring; Hayley Mathey, second in both the continuous and point sparring.

## Public Notices

### BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL TOWN POLICE CLAUSES ACT 1847 - SECTION 21 PRINCE ROAD KENFIG HILL STREET ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that the Bridgend County Borough Council intend to make an Order under Section 21 of the town Police Clauses Act 1847.

The effect of the Order is to temporarily prohibit any vehicle from proceedings in the lengths of roads and side of lengths of roads as set out in Schedule 1 below.

The closure is necessary due to events organised by Pyle Community Council, that requires safe access for those participating between Talbot Institute on Prince Road and the was memorial at the junction of Prince Road, Commercial Street and Moriah Place. Also sections of High Street, Moriah Place and Commercial Street, Kenfig Hill.

#### SCHEDULE 1

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# Nine-man Llantwit grind out hard fought win over Millwood

LLANTWIT moved to the top of the VOGAFL Division 1 with a hard fought win against a spirited Millwood team.

In previous matches against teams in a lower league position, Llantwit have found it hard to motivate themselves to perform at a level they're capable of.

This game was no different as the home team got off to a slow start and never got close to anything like the standard they have set themselves.

Llantwit hit man Dom White opened the score. Played through by Grafton, White's casual finish was well parried by the visiting keeper, which fortuitously fell back to White's feet for a simple tap in.

The goal spurred the lethargic home team into a momentary spell of expansive football with Jack Grahame and Jimbo Thomas linking well.

This proved to be a false dawn for the home team as again they lacked the enthusiasm and vigour which they enjoyed in the barn-

## MAJOR RESERVES MILLWOOD

3  
2

storming derby victory against Cowbridge the previous week.

This allowed the stubborn Millwood outfit to notch a deserved equaliser. The Llantwit defence again struggled to deal with another long ball which fell to the visiting striker, who cut inside and unleashed a fizzing drive into the top corner to leave Luke Vincent in the Major goal with no chance whatsoever.

The goal again sparked sporadic periods of good play in the home team and they were rewarded after a succession of set pieces, as Gethin Jennings' expertly delivered corner was met on the volley by Owen Morris, whose rasping strike had the net bulging.

The second half was to prove very similar to the previous, and another route one ball was again Llantwit's undoing.

Skipper Tracey was way off the pace as the

visiting striker ran onto the long ball and finished well from an acute angle, with the previously unemployed Vincent getting fingertips to the ball but not enough to prevent the equaliser with 20 minutes remaining.

Llantwit picked themselves up and again half heartedly took the game to their opponents.

An offside decision against Tracey saw him make his feelings clear to the referee, who took exception to the skipper's remarks and produced a red card to the shock of the Llantwit defender.

The home team reshuffled the line up with Grafton moving back into defence to cover the departed Tracey.

The Major were still playing the more enterprising football despite being a man down, but couldn't find the quality to finish off their subdued opponents.

Five minutes later and disaster struck as mid-field dynamo Hartley was harshly red-carded for an innocuous challenge on a Millwood player, reducing the home team to nine men.

The visitors sensed the game was there for the taking, but Llantwit had other ideas.

A flowing move saw Dan Lansdown clear on goal. With just the keeper to beat, Lansdown pulled the trigger, only to be felled by a last ditch challenge from the Millwood defender and the referee awarded a penalty with just three minutes left on the clock.

Designated penalty taker Morris stepped up to see his weak penalty saved by the outstanding visiting keeper, but Morris, renowned for his never say die attitude, followed up his spot kick to rifle home the rebound to give Llantwit a hard fought victory, moving them into top spot.

Man of the match was a close-run affair between three players Thomas, Morris and Dom White.

Morris just edged the award because of his two-goal haul which got the Major out of jail.

Llantwit team: L Vincent, O Morris, L Tracey (captain), J Fairchild, J Grahame, G Jennings, P Grafton, J Hartley, J Thomas, R Grapes, D White, Subs: D Lansdown, J Ellis, L Jennings.

DC

## BARRIVALE NEWS

### LATEST results from Barrivale:

Tuesday, November 2: 1st, Noelle Bond and Mike Close 61.11 per cent; 2nd, Alan Jones and Lyn Matthews 57.43; 3rd, Gerald Gould and Mark Roderick 56.35.

Alan and Lyn won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, ring 01446 733425.

MB

# Students undertake grading



The students show off their grading certificates.

**RISING Phoenix Tae Kwon Do Club would like to congratulate the students who successfully undertook a grading on October 18 at Barry Comprehensive School.**

The grading was held over two hours and consisted of a gruelling

warm-up, pad work, weapons and traditional Tae Kwon Do patterns.

The students were examined by Master Chris Sparkes, 7th degree black belt, and head instructor of the Korean Martial Arts association, which incorporates the United Taekwon-Do Association of Wales and the Korean Kickboxing Association

of Wales.

The Rising Phoenix Tae Kwon Do Club trains on a Tuesday at Barry Comprehensive School (6pm-8pm) and on Thursday at The Hub, YMCA (5.30pm-7pm).

For further information, contact Tammy on 07971 055247 or visit [www.risingphoenix.org.uk](http://www.risingphoenix.org.uk)

TT

# Cowbridge's Deano retires from racing at the age of 22

**COWBRIDGE National Hunt jockey Deano Coleman, aged just twenty-two, has announced his retirement from the saddle.**

He admitted that all the controversy over the successful massive gambling coup on *Am I Blue* at Hereford in September has contributed to his decision to relinquish his jockey's licence.

It will be recalled that Deano – no stranger to the pages of The GEM

ever since he started showing promise in local point-to-points – was down to ride *Am I Blue*, owned and trained by Kenfig Hill's Delyth Thomas, but was replaced by leading jockey Richard Johnson in somewhat mysterious circumstances shortly before the off.

Deano said that he had been going through a

period of disillusionment with racing and when the controversy raged over the great gambling coup, which is still the subject of a British Horseracing Authority investigation, "It was the straw that broke the camel's back."

Deano, who rides out for Aberthaw's Tim Vaughan, rode his first winner under Rules as an amateur rider on *Mad Professor* at Chepstow in 2008, and his first as a professional jockey on *Changing Lanes* at Wetherby in 2009.

His last winner was on *Letham Island* in June, he rode 23 winners last season, including one at Cheltenham, the spiritual home of steeplechasing, which gave him most pleasure.

He was in the saddle when Abbi Vaughan's *Dead Or Alive*, then owned by Cardiff bookmaker David Lovell, landed a huge gamble after being backed from

10-1 to 4-6 favourite at a Bangor-on-Dee point-to-point a couple of seasons ago; it was the biggest gamble seen at a hunt-racing meeting for many years.

Deano was last seen in the saddle when the controversial *Am I Blue* finished last of 12 at Worcester on August 17: not the ideal way to bow out of racing it must be admitted.

I don't think we had seen the best of this for-

mer Welsh novice champion rider, however, the good thing is that he is still under the care of Tim Vaughan.

He commented: "Deano just wasn't getting the rides and it wasn't economically viable for him, but he still works for me in the yard and everything is fine and dandy on that front. He is conscientious, hard working, and I'm pleased to have him."

BRIAN LEE

# Search for new Gareth Bale!

**PETERSTON-SUPER-ELY** has long needed a junior football club, and a group of dads are ensuring that this is now happening – with the emphasis placed on learning fun and skills in equal measure.

From the start of next season, there will hopefully be enough interest to have a number of teams of different ages in the Vale of Glamorgan

League, says spokesman Gareth Huntsman.

Training and fun games have already started on the playing fields (opposite the church in the centre of the village) – each session starting at 10am for an hour each Saturday morning. These are free for all to join for those currently in school years-1, 2 and 3. The team would welcome all interested boys and girls.

Alternatively, email [gareth.hardman@three.co.uk](mailto:gareth.hardman@three.co.uk) for more details.



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- 08 08 SEAT Ibiza 1.4 TDi 80 Reference Sport 3-Dr Hatchback. In metallic silver with reference grey interior, alloy wheels, air con, ISOFIX anchorage point front electric windows, one owner, only 18,500 miles. **£9,995**
- 07 07 SEAT Leon 2.0 TDI DPF FR 5-dr Hatchback. In black magic with FR grey interior, cruise control, air con, traction control system, ESP, only 38,598 miles. **£11,995**
- 07 07 VAUXHALL Tigra 1.4i 16v sport 2-dr cabriolet in air blue with charcoal alpha interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, cd, front fogs, only 48,730 miles. **£6,995**
- 06 56 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.4TSI (170ps) FT 5-dr in reflex silver metallic with siemere anthracite interior, climate control, alloy wheels, cd, only 49,998 miles. **£9,995**
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- 06 55 RENAULT Megane 2.0 VVT 136 Privilege 2 Door Coupe Cabriolet. In metallic gold with magnolia leather interior, luxury pack, climate control, multi CD, cruise control, panoramic roof, only 9,250 miles. **£6,995**
- 05 55 FORD Street Ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible. In French blue with ebony black leather interior, air con, cd, quick clear front screen, only 21,720 miles. **£5,995**
- 04 54 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.9 TDI (100ps) Sport 5-dr in rosewood red pearlescent with scala sports interior, alloy wheels, air con, body coloured bumpers, cd, only 59,790 miles. **£5,695**
- 04 04 AUDI TT Coupe 3.2 V6 3-Dr Coupe Quattro. In dolemite grey with grey leather interior, climate control, traction control system, multi CD, BOSE sound system, only 35,040 miles. **£10,495**
- 04 04 TOYOTA MR2 1.8 VVTi 140 6-spd in sable grey met with Santa Monica leather, alloy wheels, chrome roll over bar, wind deflector, cd, alarm and immobiliser, only 49,750 miles. **£6,995**
- 04 04 CITROEN C2 1.6 VTR Sensodrive in arctic steel silver with neutron mesh interior, paddle shift, alloy wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, rear spoiler, cd, only 62,100 miles. **£3,995**
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- 03 53 AUDI A3 2.0 TDI Sport 3-Dr Hatchback. In dolphin grey with matrix grey/black interior, climate control, CD, colour coded bumpers, alloy wheels, only 70,700 miles. **£7,495**
- 03 53 MG TF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible. In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles. **£3,995**
- 00 W LEXUS IS200 2.0 Sport 4-Door Saloon. In Strathcan blue with Oakham suede/leather interior, multi-CD, electric heated seats, electric sunroof, air con, only 57,280 miles. **£3,995**

## FAMILY

- 09 09 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 Verve 5-dr Hatchback in Onyx black with black/red interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, ISOFIX anchorage point, manufacturers warranty, service history, only 8,890 miles. **£7,995**

- 08 08 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Breeze 5-dr in star silver met with tabita charcoal interior, alloy wheels, climate control, trip computer, body coloured bumpers, only 10,800 miles. **£8,495**
- 07 57 NISSAN QashQai 2.0dCi Tenka 5-dr AWD. In pearl black metallic, with full graphite leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, cd with bluetooth, heated seats, rear parking sensors, panoramic sunroof, only 37,267 miles. **£14,995**
- 07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback. In mercury silver with carbon sport interior, air con, CD, front fogs, alarm, only 15,060 miles. **£6,495**
- 06 56 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 VVT Dynamique 5-Dr Hatchback. In quartz with laser charcoal interior, air con, CD, colour coded bumpers, front fogs, only 32,000 miles. **£5,495**
- 06 06 MAZDA 6 2.0TF TS2 (143 bhp) 5-dr hatchback in Pacific blue with black sports interior, multi CD, Bose sound system, cruise control, climate control, only 73,000 miles. **£5,495**
- 06 06 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI S Line. In brilliant red with black mondial interior, climate control, aluminium trim strips, multi CD, 18" alloy wheels, service history, only 73,400 miles. **£10,995**
- 06 06 FORD Focus Zetec Climate 1.8 TDCi Diesel 5-dr Hatchback. In black with dark interior, alloy wheels, air con, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 61,199 miles, quick clean screen. **£6,995**
- 54 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SX 5-dr Estate. In imperial blue with grey interior, a/con, cd, electric windows, body coloured bumpers, only 30,700 miles. **£3,495**
- 05 05 HONDA Civic 1.7 CDTi in magnetic blue with hatch fabric interior, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 55,130 miles. **£5,995**
- 05 05 FORD Mondeo 2.2TDCi Titanium X 5-Dr Hatchback. In panther black with grey partial leather interior, air con, multi CD, quick clear front screen, cruise control, full service history, 47,700 miles. **£5,995**
- 04 54 CITROEN C3 stop&start 1.4 5-dr Automatic Hatchback. In silver with blue velour interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, only 29,920 miles. **£3,995**
- 04 04 TOYOTA Avenis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon. Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles. **£5,995**
- 04 04 FORD Focus 1.6i 16v Zetec 5-dr Hatchback. In panther black with Saloman black interior, climate pack, air con and quick clear heated front screen, alloys, colour coded bumpers, only 83,060 miles. **£4,395**
- 03 53 RENAULT Grand Espace 2.2 dci Privilege 5-dr MPV in flame red with grey stone suede interior, steering mounted controls, climate control, multi cd front fogs, only 77,000 miles. **£5,795**
- 03 03 HONDA Civic Type S 5-dr in clover green met with half leather sports seats, climate control, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, full Honda service history, only 36,030 miles. **£4,995**
- 02 02 LAND ROVER Freelander 1.8 GS 3-dr Hardtop in burgundy with grey interior, multi CD, air con, alloy wheels, service history, only 48,030 miles. **£3,495**
- 02 51 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 VVTi GLS Automatic 5-dr. In Atlantis blue metallic with honey interior, alloy wheels, air con, sunroof, cd auto-changer, body coloured bumpers, only 35,590 miles. **£2,995**
- 51 MERCEDES Benz A-Class 1.4 A140 Avantgard 5-dr Hatchback. In red with slate grey half leather/cloth interior, ipod connection, air con, alloy wheels, service history, only 47,790 miles. **£3,495**
- 01 Y LANDROVER Freelander 1.8 GS 3-dr hard top in Blenheim silver with smokestone interior, alloy wheels, air con, cd, only 68,220 miles. **£2,995**

## SMALL

- 08 08 CITROEN C1 1.0i Rhythm 5-dr Hatchback in Caldera black with black interior, electric front windows, p/steering, cd, centre rear seat belt, 1 owner, £35 a year road tax, only 18,100 miles. **£5,995**
- 08 58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design (A/C), 5 door in ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles. **£7,995**
- 08 08 FORD KA Studio. In panther black with cascade interior, immobiliser, CD, drivers airbag, central locking, only 32,349 miles. **£4,495**
- 07 07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2i 16v life (a/c) 3-dr hatchback easy tronic. In metro blue with punch cloth charcoal interior, electric mirrors, air con, immobiliser, service history, only 17,900 miles. **£5,995**
- 06 56 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v SXi+ 3-dr Hatchback. In sapphire black with splice/leather black interior, alloy wheels, privacy glass, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 52,320 miles. **£3,995**
- 06 06 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design 5-dr hatchback in silver lightning with charcoal interior, air con, cd, body coloured bumpers, power steering, service history, only 39,820 miles. **£4,495**
- 05 55 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0i 12v Life 3-dr Hatchback. In purple spell with Orleans charcoal interior, CD, power steering, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 29,820 miles. **£3,495**
- 04 54 MINI 1.6 Cooper (Pepper pack) 3-dr Hatchback. In purple with white roof, black interior, 8 spoke alloy wheels, a/c, cd, front fogs, e/front windows, only 39,760 miles. **£6,995**
- 04 54 FIAT Punto 1.2 8v 3-dr hatchback. In crystal green with grey tek interior, electric front windows, power steering, colour coded bumpers, only 34,500 miles. **£2,995**
- 04 04 FORD Ka 1.6 Sport 3-dr Hatchback. Magnum grey with streetline dark interior, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, electric windows, alloy wheels, cd, only 40,955 miles. **£3,495**
- 03 03 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression 5-dr Hatchback. In capsicum red with grey interior, CD, sunroof, power steering, service history, only 58,105 miles. **£2,995**
- 02 02 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 16v SE 2-dr coupe convertible. In light metallic blue with red/black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, cd, wind deflector, service history, only 19,170 miles. **£3,995**
- 02 51 ALFA ROMEO 1.6 T-Spark Lusso 3-dr Hatchback in Alfa red with elegant velour interior, alloy wheels, air conditioning, i-pod connection, colour coded bumpers, only 79,085 miles. **£2,995**

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| 08 | VW EOS 2.0 FSi Sport.                       | In silver with black leather trim, 44,000 miles, convertible       | £14,995                                  |
| 07 | MERCEDES C220 CDI Avante Garde Estate Auto. | In met silver, 65,000 miles, superb throughout                     | £13,495                                  |
| 57 | AUDI A4 2.0 TDi Convertible Automatic.      | In met red with beige leather seats, one owner, fantastic value at | £11,995                                  |
| 05 | MERCEDES ML 270 CDI Automatic.              | In black with grey leather, 71,000 miles, FSH.                     | £11,995                                  |
| 04 | MERCEDES CLK 240 Convertible Auto.          | In black with black leather trim, 66,000 miles, upgraded alloys    | £11,995                                  |
| 04 | AUDI A4 2.5 TDi Auto Convertible.           | In silver with black leather, 71,000 miles, sat nav etc            | £10,995                                  |
| 07 | MERCEDES C220 CDI Avantgarde Automatic.     | In silver, 1 owner, fsh  | £8,995                                   |
| 06 | FORD Fiesta 2.0 ST.                         | In silver, 39,000 miles with a/c, on offer at                      | <b>REDUCED BY £500 TO</b> £6,495         |
| 06 | TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi.                     | In met blue, 68,000 miles, 1 private owner, sports coupe at        | £5,995                                   |
| 54 | MAZDA RX8 192PS.                            | In black, 60,000 miles, stylish 4-dr coupe                         | £5,995                                   |
| 53 | NISSAN X-Trail 2.2 DCi SVE.                 | In met-light grey with black leather trim, Diesel 4x4              | £5,995                                   |
| 55 | FORD Fiesta 2.0 ST.                         | In red with black/red half leather trim, 50,000 miles, a/c         | £5,695                                   |
| 05 | SUZUKI Grand Vitara 2.0 5-dr.               | Met-gold, 55,000 miles with a/c, cd, side steps                    | <b>REDUCED BY £500 TO</b> £5,495         |
| 02 | MERCEDES C180 Elegance Auto.                | In met-silver birch, 63,000 miles, fantastic value at              | £5,495                                   |
| Y  | BMW Z3 2.2i Roadster.                       | In black with black leather trim, 79,000 miles, priced to sell     | £5,495                                   |
| 52 | BMW 520i SE Auto.                           | In topaz blue, 67,000 miles, executive saloon at                   | £4,995                                   |
| 02 | LEXUS GS300 SE Navigator.                   | Burgundy met, light grey leather, 75,000 miles                     | <b>FANTASTIC VALUE REDUCED TO</b> £4,695 |
| 05 | ALFA ROMEO 147 1.6 Lusso 3-dr.              | In met blue, 56,000 miles, a/c, alloys etc                         | £3,995                                   |
| 05 | ROVER 75 Connaissance SE                    | In silver with black leather, 22,000 miles, heated seats, etc      | £3,995                                   |
| 53 | SUZUKI Jimney 02.                           | Black/silver soft top, 51,000 miles                                | <b>REDUCED BY £300 TO</b> £3,695         |

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|----|---|---|------------------------------------|
| 59 | FIESTA 1.2 Zetec Climate 3-dr.                    | In white, 8,000 miles, host of extras, 1 owner                            | £8,995                             |
| 09 | FORD Focus 1.6 Style 5-dr.                        | In black, 19,000 miles with sports pack and a/c                           | £8,995                             |
| 59 | FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 5-dr (new shape)           | met blue, 500 miles only  | <b>REDUCED BY £1000 TO</b> £7,995  |
| 57 | VW Golf 1.9 TDi SE 5-dr.                          | In silver, 60,000 miles, alloys, a/c, c/d, etc                            | £6,995                             |
| 54 | RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique 5-Dr.                | In satin gold, 35,000 miles with A/C etc.                                 | £5,995                             |
| 07 | RENAULT Scenic 1.6 VVTi Dynamic.                  | In met grey, 10,000 miles, 1 owner  | <b>REDUCED BY £500 TO</b> £5,995   |
| 07 | CITROEN C4 1.6 Cool 3-dr.                         | In silver, 37,000 miles with a/c  | £5,995                             |
| 56 | VAUXHALL Zafira 1.9 CDTi 120 Club 7 seater.       | Black, economical people carrier  | <b>REDUCED BY £1000 TO</b> £5,995  |
| 06 | TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 T-Spirit 5-Dr Automatic.         | In light met grey, 28,000 miles with A/C, alloys                          | £5,995                             |
| 08 | PEUGEOT 107 Urban 1.0 3-dr.                       | In silver, 29,000 miles, £20 a year road tax                              | £5,695                             |
| 56 | FORD Focus 1.6 LX Estate.                         | Black, 20,146 miles, 1 owner, outstanding value                           | <b>REDUCED BY £500 TO</b> £5,495   |
| 58 | CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SXi Estate Auto.            | In Met Blue, 9,000 miles, under manufacturers warranty                    | £5,495                             |
| 57 | SMART Four Two 1.0 Passion Automatic (New Model). | In silver with cd, a/c, alloys, £30 road tax.                             | £4,995                             |
| 07 | RENAULT Clio (New model) 1.2 Expression.          | In met blue, 33,000 miles, 1 owner, a/c                                   | <b>REDUCED BY £1000 TO</b> £4,995  |
| 56 | MITSUBISHI Lancer 1.6 Elegance Automatic.         | In met blue with black leather, 37,000 miles                              | £4,995                             |
| 56 | FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Zetec 5-dr.                  | In silver, 65,000 mile diesel hatch                                       | <b>REDUCED BY £1000 TO</b> £4,995  |
| 06 | RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique.               | Silver, 46,000 miles, 7 seater  | <b>REDUCED BY £1000 TO</b> £4,995  |
| 06 | VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 Life                          | In silver, 40,000 miles with CD, A/C etc.                                 | £4,995                             |
| 06 | VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 Life 5-Dr Automatic.           | In met black, 83,000 miles, 2 owners                                      | £4,995                             |
| 06 | RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique.                     | In black metallic, 33,000 miles with panoramic roof etc.                  | £4,995                             |
| 04 | PEUGEOT 307 1.6 HDi SE Estate 7-seater.           | In light met green, full panoramic roof, 70,000 miles                     | £4,995                             |
| 56 | SMART FourTwo 700 Passion Automatic Convertible.  | Silver with black leather, heated seats, a/c                              | £4,695                             |
| 56 | PEUGEOT 206 1.4 5-dr.                             | In satin silver, 40,000 miles, 1 owner with a/c, cd                       | <b>REDUCED BY £300 TO</b> £4,695   |
| 56 | RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression New Shape 3-Dr.       | In met black, 47,000 miles, 1 local owner                                 | £4,495                             |
| 05 | CITROEN C4 1.4 SXi 5-dr.                          | In met-green, 58,000 miles, 1 owner with a/c, alloys etc                  | £3,995                             |
| 54 | NISSAN Primera 2.0 SX 5-dr.                       | In silver, 62,000 mile local car with reversing camera                    | £3,995                             |
| 06 | CHEVROLET Tacuma 1.6 SX.                          | Met Sea Green, outstanding value MPV                                      | £3,695                             |
| 53 | FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec 5-dr Automatic.              | In met-burgundy, 57,000 miles, alloys etc                                 | £3,695                             |
| 55 | CHEVROLET Tacuma 1.6 SX.                          | Met blue with grey leather, low mileage                                   | <b>REDUCED BY £500 TO</b> £3,495   |
| 55 | CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 SXi 3-Dr.                     | In black, 39,000 miles with a/c, CD, alloys                               | £3,295                             |
| 06 | MITSUBISHI Colt 1.2 C2i 3-dr.                     | Light met-blue, 1 owner, CD, e/w, c/l                                     | <b>REDUCED BY £1000 TO</b> £2,995  |
| 54 | ROVER 45 1.6 Club                                 | In silver, 36,000 mile example with heated seats, cd, etc                 | £2,995                             |
| 03 | FORD Focus 1.6 Ghia 4-dr.                         | In silver with black leather, 68,000 miles, a/c, cd, heated seats, alloys | £2,995                             |
| 02 | SEAT Leon 1.6i S 5-dr.                            | In red, 71,000 miles, superb value at only                                | £2,995                             |
| 52 | MAZDA 6 2.0 TS 4-dr.                              | In silver, 71,000 mile local car, a/c etc, ideal family car               | £2,995                             |
| 51 | FORD Focus 2.0 Ghia 4-Dr.                         | In met black, 75,000 miles, 1 owner example with A/C etc                  | £2,695                             |
| 05 | CHEVROLET Tacuma 1.6 SX.                          | Silver, 44,500 miles, excellent value family car                          | <b>REDUCED BY £1,000 TO</b> £2,495 |
| 55 | CITROEN Berlingo 2.0 HDi Van                      | In white, tidy looking van, drives superb                                 | £2,195                             |

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# More national success for local horse trainers

**LOCAL** trainers were in the news again last week, saddling winners up and down the country.

Llancafarn trainer Evan Williams saw his nine-year-old bay gelding *Prince Massini* land the Lindley Catering Handicap Hurdle at Chepstow last Thursday.

Well ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney, *Prince Massini* the 3-1 favourite in a field of 16 runners, scored by two lengths from *Radmore's Revenge*.

At Nottingham on the same day, Ystradowen trainer Bryn Palling took the B&M Installations Handicap (Division One) with his four-year-old bay gelding *Spring Secret* who, under top jockey Richard Hughes, ploughed through the heavy going to win by six lengths from *Harry Hunt*.

Twenty-four hours later, Williams and Palling were again in the winners' enclosure.

At far flung Kelso, Williams took the opener with the odds-on *Earth Magic* (Paul Moloney) and Palling was successful with 16-1 outsider *Pelham Crescent*, who was ridden by Welsh jockey David Probert.

Kenfig Hill's John Flint, who is going from strength to strength, landed the £15,655 Toteswinger Mares Handicap Hurdle at Wincanton on Saturday with 12-1 chance *Santera* ridden by Will Kennedy.

He said: "We bought her for £5,000 out of a seller and to go from there to here in just three runs for us is quite something. My son Rhys was convinced that the step up to two miles and six furlongs, and racing in better company, would be the making of her, and it has been."

Llancafarn trainer

## ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

Evan Williams sent two horses on the long trek to Market Rasen on Sunday, and won with both of them.

The double was initiated when 5-2 chance *Get It On* gave weight all round to win the Digibet.com Novices Hurdle by two lengths from *Mac Arda* and was completed when *Ashfield's Dream*, a 9-1 shot, scored by four lengths from *Mr Moonshine* in the Victor Lucas Memorial Novices' Chase.

Both horses were ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney who later made it a hat-trick when winning on *Roseneath* for A Hales.

## POINT-TO-POINT STORIES

**OVER the years, point-to-point racing was well covered by *The Sporting Life*. However, few between-the-flags stories made its front pages.**

One exception was the story I filed back in 1993 after attending the Gelligaer Farmers meeting and which had concerned a grey horse I had dubbed 'The *Desert Orchid* of Wales,' Peter Bowen's quirky *Brunico*.

The race was more like a slow bicycle race and the winning time of nine minutes 36 seconds was almost certainly the slowest ever recorded for a three-mile point-to-point.

Two of the three riders, Tim Jones and Robert Rowsell, were greeted with boos and catcalls while Ron Trelloggen, who rode the winner, received a tremendous reception.

My complaint with

the paper was that my story carried a staff writer's byline which, I suppose, was fair enough. But everyone else was mentioned apart from me who had actually witnessed point-to-point's most controversial race!

Be that as it may, *The Story of Your Life - A history of The Sporting Life newspaper (1859-1998)* by James Lambie and published by Troubadour Publishing Ltd, 5 Weir Road, Kibworth Beauchamp, Leicester, LE8 0LQ at £25 is the intriguing story and turbulent history of a paper Charles Dickens praised for its 'range of information and profundity of knowledge', and which the Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, simply endorsed with the remark: "Of course I read *The Sporting Life*."

It was the Queen Mother's love of horse racing that made her such an avid reader of the paper and coverage of that sport forms the core of this cracking book. There is so much more to fascinate the reader including eyewitness accounts of the first fight for the heavy-weight championship of the world, and Captain Webb's heroic Channel swim in 1875.

Highlights in the history of cricket, football and rugby are also featured, while chapters on coursing and greyhound racing rank along surreal reports on ratting contests and songbird com-

petitions.

And for 30 years, Tommy Wisdom made the motoring reports unique by competing against the best at Brooklands, Le Mans and in many Monte Carlo rallies, while Henry Longhurst's golfing column was simply the best.

The paper's strident campaigns for racing reforms are also chronicled along with coverage of major news stories from Fred Archer's shocking suicide to its own untimely demise.

Its travails in the law courts are documented from its first year, when it was forced to change its title, to the last, when it had to pay libel damages to the training team of Lynda Ramsden and their jockey Kieren Fallon.

A higher price was paid by its French correspondent who was killed in a duel over an article he had written, while the terrible toll of the First World War took on the nation's sporting heroes is catalogued by *The Life's* embedded army correspondent, against a background of political bungling that is being repeated today.

As the former Welsh point-to-point correspondent of the legendary racing daily newspaper for more than 30 years, I still miss this much lamented publication.

You can email your news/views to Brian Lee at [leebrian@btinternet.com](mailto:leebrian@btinternet.com) or phone him on 02920736438.

## County just edge out the Police

**GLAMORGAN COUNTY 26  
BRITISH POLICE 24**

**SOUTH Wales policeman Rhys Williams, until recently stationed at Bridgend, spoils an otherwise flawless kicking night at the Dairyfield, when he failed to convert a try by Gwent policeman Gareth Williams that would have tied the match with the last kick of the game.**

There was plenty of good quality rugby in a match that ended in driving rain. Glamorgan scored tries through Richard Lamb of Aberavon Green Stars, Ewan Hopkins (Seven Sisters), Nathan Walters (Giffach Goch) and Lyndsay Macausland (Bridgend Athletic).

Paul Smithson of

Tondu converted three and Dean Thomas, also of Tondu, converted one.

The County were led by ex-Llanharan favourite Jonathan Myatt.

Players making their debuts for Glamorgan were Mike Huckridge and Zak O'Driscoll of Heol y Cyw, Tom Daly of Bridgend Ravens and David Quinn from Kenfig Hill.

In the clubhouse, presentations of county ties were made by president Mike Harrison of Giffach Goch, to Nathan Walters and Ricky Friday of Giffach Goch, and Lyndsay Macausland of Bridgend Athletic.

Glamorgan will play Wales Deaf at the Brewery Field on Sunday, November 28 kick-off at 2.30pm.

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## Relative success for golfers Santa and Rebecca!



IT was a family affair when Rebecca Roberts and her grandmother Santa Evans (pictured above), members of Cottrell Park golf club, qualified to play in the final of the GUV Centenary green-somes.

The final was played at Fairwood Park Golf Club in Swansea mid September.

A total of 52 pairs competed and Santa and Rebecca played extremely well, coming second to the winners from Celtic Manor. They were presented with the runners-up prize.

CB





# GEM sport

## After runaway Wallabies, can Wales corral the Springboks?

**BACK PAGE COMMENT** by Don John

IT was not so long ago that pessimistic media pundits, some of them former international stars with household names, were writing off any chance of Wales ever again becoming a major rugby force in the world, after countless years in the wilderness.

They argued that while there was (as ever) pace and flair in abundance among Welsh threequarters, the national cause was forever doomed to failure, because Wales could not field a credibly competitive pack worthy of the name.

Welsh forwards were said to be simply 'too small and too unfit' for the ultra physical demands of the modern game and thus incapable of routinely winning the quality possession needed to set our runners free.

Much has happened since then, of course, with tough dietary and conditioning regimes now producing one of the biggest and fittest teams in world rugby, as was proved on Saturday at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff when the Welsh eight almost scrummaged Australia off the park.

In the end, though, set piece heroics were not enough to prevent Australia again running out comfortable winners 25-16 – and, in the process, giving Wales yet another lesson in ruthless precision play when half chances present themselves.

For years, Welsh backs had often been forced to exist on a meagre subsistence diet supplied by a

struggling pack.

On Saturday, though, the boot was on the other foot and it was the Wallabies' scrum that was in trouble from the start, thanks to an immense effort by the Welsh eight led by their British Lions front row of Jenkins, Rees and Jones.

Instead, though, of pacy Welsh threequarters then eagerly turning this rare advantage into points, ironically it was the Wallabies who shrugged off the problems up front to cut loose with three devastatingly-executed tries, much as they had done against New Zealand before coming on tour.

In a trice, the game was lost and a frustrated Wales were left once to again dwell on what might have been.

Inevitably, there have been strident calls for heads to roll and it is true that the crucial half-back link again lacked urgency, with Mike Phillips taking the brunt of the media criticism for the time taken to get the ball away from the base of the scrum (something I have touched on previously).

As a result, poor Stephen Jones has also been pilloried (not for the first time in the press). While it is true that he is now nearing the end of an illustrious international career, he should not be made the scapegoat for the inventive limitations of a reshaped backline geared more to rugged defence than all-out attack.

He has a world class pedigree and surely still has a part to play in the run-up to next year's World Cup,

while his eventual successor (whoever that may be) is being groomed at No 10.

That said, in the end Wales were undone by pace – particularly galling for a nation that has historically taken pride in a long succession of fliers in the red shirt.

No doubt this will be the focus of debate by the Welsh camp as it prepares for the next big test – against South Africa at the Millennium Stadium, on Saturday – though in truth, Gatland & Co's options are limited.

Given the injury-hit Springboks' weakened state, evident in the narrow win over Ireland at the weekend, Wales will be looking to build on the plusses of the performance against Australia and eliminate the minuses!

It will be interesting to see if the basic game plan is repeated, though it is unlikely in the extreme that the rugged South Africans will display any fragility up front!

We will know more when the team is announced today (Thursday).

One thing that critics of the current squad should never forget is that we have come a very long way from the long dark days when Wales were regarded as the whipping boys of world rugby.

Win or lose, hopefully, South Africa will know they have been in a game far removed from a certain nightmare match for Wales in Pretoria!

## Athletic look to break in order to regroup

**Swalec League Division 1 West**  
**LLANGENNECH 35**  
**BRIDGEND ATHLETIC 16**

LLANGENNECH are celebrating their 125th anniversary this season, but Bridgend Athletic, the infants of the division with only 38 years of history, hoped to spoil the party.

On a pitch where the Athletic have failed to win, they missed the opportunity to increase their five-point league lead over the home side – and ended the day on a level 18 points with Llangennech recording a bonus point 36-15 triumph.

The Athletic started brightly and were on top for the first 20 minutes. During this period, outside-half Steven Lewis kicked two penalties – one from 40 metres.

Lewis also spotted the rush defence of Llangennech and a neat chip ahead just inside his own half was gathered by centre Robert Coles.

Coles raced into the opposition 22 and the ball moved via full-back Mike Hathaway to wing Lyndsey MaCausland.

MaCausland crossed the line with a Llangennech player hanging on, but by the time the referee arrived on the scene he had been turned onto his back and the try was disallowed.

Llangennech profited from this and within two minutes, following an Athletic error, found themselves with a lineup five metres from the Athletic try line.

They won the lineup and following a few drives to suck in the defence, released the ball for wing Chris Matthias to cross under the posts for a try converted by outside-half Craig Evans.

A potential 13-0

Athletic lead became a 7-6 deficit, and within a minute the Athletic were penalised and Evans extended the lead to 10-6.

From the restart, the Athletic hit back, as scrum-half Aled Thomas charged down an attempted clearance kick.

The ball was moved to centre Coles who offloaded in the tackle to Lewis, who sidestepped the full-back to cross under the posts. He converted his own try to put the Athletic 13-10 ahead, which also brought up the 200th point of the season's league campaign.

Llangennech won the ball against the lineup and the ball was worked to the opposite wing Mike Davies, who crossed in the corner to put his side 15-13 ahead at half-time.

While the first half had been keenly contested, there was only one side in the game in the second half.

Only Athletic lock Tom Penry-Ellis stood up to the mark as the Athletic were outplayed in set pieces and the backs. The pack, coached by former Wales hooker Barry Williams, had a good scrum and lineout and kept possession well.

They ground down the Athletic and released a well-organised back unit to wreak havoc among a disjointed Athletic back division.

In the early stages of the half, Evans and Lewis exchanged penalties to leave Llangennech 18-16 ahead.

The constant Llangennech pressure led to a second try for Matthias and a penalty try. Two conversions and a drop goal for Evans for a match haul of 15 points



Centre Robert Coles.



Centre Stuart Morris.

**Photographs**  
**KERRY FOTHERGILL**

completed the scoring.

Director of rugby, Paul Yardley, was extremely disappointed with the Athletic's performance: "We now have to regroup and put things right in training before our next league fixture on November 20, away to third-placed Corus."

"Hopefully, some key players will then have recovered from injuries and be able to add depth to the squad."

**BRIDGEND ATHLETIC**  
**2nds 71**  
**LLANHANAR 2nds 5**

**FOLLOWING** a 96-5 demolition of local side Brackla in a friendly, Bridgend Athletic 2nd XV returned to league action with a thumping 10-try bonus point win over neighbours, Llanharan.

The Athletic have stepped up to the mark in this highly-competitive league for 2nd XV Premier and Division 1 sides.

They have played seven, won five, drawn one and lost one with 241 points for and 137 against, crossing for 33 tries.

Centre Nick Hinton crossed for a brace of tries and is the leading try scorer with seven tries.

Wing Owen Francis also crossed for a brace and now has four tries to his credit in only two outings.

Other tries came from centre Johnny Nation, lock Callum McLeod, flanker

Chris Whitcombe, hooker Nathan Holman, replacement Lee Simms – who also added two conversions and captain and outside-half Tom Cole, who also converted seven of the tries and kicked a penalty for a match haul of 22 points.

Cole is the leading points scorer with 72 points.

AB



Wing Lyndsey MaCausland.

## Joint leaders in Premier Division



THE Pie Boys continue to struggle at the bottom of the Bridgend six-a-side league and are still to pick up a point after four games.

This week, they lost 5-2 to Croissants, while the winners stay just off the pace.

B Attack stay top and had Rich Lewis to thank for their 3-0 victory over Andrew Dixon FC, while Persil Boys cleaned up 4-1 against Day

Sleepers.

The top two in division one both won 4-0, as Hardly Athletic and Young Exiles beat No Tea Tonight and Team Extreme respectively.

Finally Laleston Lions sit comfortably in mid-table as Harry Coxon led them to a fine 3-0 victory over Minter Phoenix.

Anyone who wants to join the six-a-side football leagues in Bridgend can telephone 0845 230 2340 or visit [www.leisureleagues.net](http://www.leisureleagues.net)



Prop Rod Apsee.